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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COSTA).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

April 14, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM COSTA to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD BUCHANAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the former city of Bloomington council member, mayor, and McLean County board member, Mr. Richard Buchanan. He was a clearly dedicated public servant who dedicated more than four decades of his life to serving the taxpayers. Sadly, Rich passed away on March 30.

Rich grew up in Clinton, and graduated from Northern Illinois University, where he met the love of his life, Judy. After graduation, Richard spent 6 years serving his country in the U.S. Army Reserve. Outside of public service, he had an enduring career spanning 30 years at State Farm and raised three children alongside Judy. His leadership to Bloomington and McClean County will truly be missed.

My prayers are with his wife, Judy, his children, and all those who called Richard a friend.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF PATRICIA EVERHART REESE

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Patricia Everhart Reese of Taylorville, a teacher and beloved community member, and my friend, who passed away on November 3, 2020.

Pat taught with the Taylorville School District for many years and was influential with the development of the Lincoln Land Literacy Program. She also spent time teaching at the Taylorville Correctional Center.

Pat, of course, took on many other roles in the community. One, being mentor to me, and also, she was the First Lady of Taylorville for 16 years and the Republican County chairwoman for 25 years, but her service never stopped.

Pat leaves a lasting impact on the Taylorville community and will be remembered as a great friend to so many.

My prayers are with her husband, Dan, and their entire family at this time.

RECOGNIZING PATTY HORNBuckle

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patty Hornbuckle for her leadership and service to Taylorville and Christian County, Illinois.

I had the privilege to work with Patty in her role as the CEO of the Greater Taylorville Chamber of Commerce. The chamber is the driving

force to attract new businesses, residents, and tourists in our hometown.

During Patty's tenure, the chamber experienced significant growth in membership and increase in revenue through fundraising and the expansion of the chamber's signature event, "The Taylorville Chilifest."

Patty is certainly going to be missed. While we will miss her, her leadership has set up the chamber to continue its successful service to our community for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to send my heartfelt congrats to my friend, Patty, her husband, Greg, and also her family.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN CURTIN

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember John Curtin of Taylorville.

John was my neighbor, a farmer, and active community member, who was our longtime county board chair, and he passed away on March 10 of 2021.

John began farming in Christian County in 1957. He served 12 years as the cattle superintendent at the Illinois State Fair and president of the Illinois Angus Association. In 1984, he was designated master farmer by Prairie Farmer.

John was a dedicated servant and leader to his community. And as I mentioned, he served on the county board as chair, but he was on the board for 40 years. The Taylorville Chamber of Commerce awarded him with a lifetime achievement award in recognition of his community service.

John was a fellow parishioner within the Holy Trinity Catholic parish as part of St. Mary's in Stonington, in Taylorville, and his legacy will be remembered forever.

My prayers are with his brothers, six children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

HONORING TODD HANNEKEN

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Illinois

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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State Trooper, Todd Hanneken, of Decatur, Illinois, who lost his life on March 25.

Todd fulfilled his lifelong dream of becoming a state trooper. He was a 20-year veteran of the Illinois State Police and always went above and beyond the call of duty.

In 2018, Todd was awarded the Illinois State Police Medal of Honor for heroic actions he took to rescue a man out of a burning car, ultimately saving that man's life.

For so many, Todd was more than a state trooper. He was a husband, father, son, brother, and beloved friend. Those that knew Todd will remember him for his kindness and compassion. Todd cared deeply about his community, always wanting to help others in need.

A tragic accident took Todd's life, and my prayers are with his friends and family, both at home and with the State Police, and particularly his wife, Shelley; and sons, Ben and Nick. Todd was a hero in every sense of the word and will truly be missed.

RECOGNIZING U.S. CAPITOL POLICE FORCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, in March, the House passed legislation to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the men and women of the U.S. Capitol Police for their heroism on January 6 and for their daily efforts to protect the institutions of our democracy.

On April 3, once again, we saw an example, of not only the dangers in which they place themselves through their service, but also the courage they bring to that service.

In the short span of fewer than 100 days, the U.S. Capitol force lost three members as a result of attacks on the Capitol complex. Yesterday, we honored one of those Capitol policemen, Billy Evans. But in a real sense, we honored every member of the United States Capitol Police.

Some years ago, I lost a member of the Capitol Police who lived in my district, J.J. Chestnut. Wendy, his wife, was at the ceremony yesterday for Billy Evans. That was in 1998. He and Officer Gibson lost their lives in defending this Capitol on that date. And while a Congressional Gold Medal is a very fitting tribute, it can neither lessen the grief felt by their fellow officers nor reduce the sense of unease that so many of them must still be feeling today.

Mr. Speaker, this has been a challenging time for the Congress and for all of us, but it certainly has been a time of challenge for the Capitol Police force. And surely the force will be going through a period of change and adaptation for some time to come, as will all of us who serve here in the Capitol complex.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk a moment on this floor to say thank you for

those who still stand watch at the doors and the vehicle barriers, who patrol the neighborhoods and the office buildings, who sit ready to respond quickly and courageously to any emergency, never knowing what the next alarm might bring.

Mr. Speaker, in particular, I thank the men and women who have served on the security detail that the Capitol Police have assigned to me in my role as majority leader. You get to know them as friends, as protectors, and as family.

Since being elected to House leadership, I have been privileged to know some of the best of the force. They are representative of an extraordinary group of people. In order to protect their safety and privacy, I will not share their names, but they know who they are. Each and every one of them not only have my immense gratitude and respect, but they have the admiration of my entire staff, whom they have gotten to know very well.

Mr. Speaker, again, as I know them, I know that they are representative of an extraordinary group of people that we call the United States Capitol Police.

On January 6, when the rioters first breached the Capitol's defenses, these officers acted without delay, according to their training, to get me quickly to a safe location, but they couldn't get everybody. And so many were still in this Chamber as the insurrectionists cried for the lives of Members of Congress.

Capitol Police checked in with staff and did their best to get us information in a situation that was chaotic and rapidly changing for us, but more importantly, for them on the front lines. My security detail until the last Congress had been led by an officer, who now serves in the force in a more senior capacity. He was by my side almost every day for nearly two decades. I came to know him and his family well, just as I have other members of my detail. As I said, they are like family to all of us in the majority leader's office. I know that is true of the minority leader's office and the whip's office and the Speaker's office and the Democratic whip's office, and our Senate counterparts.

The senior officer on my detail formerly was present at the Capitol on January 6, and he acted heroically, and he was the one that tried to save the life of the woman who was shot—who was an insurrectionist—because he stood next to her, unarmed, when that incident occurred. He acted heroically in trying to keep the rioters away from the House Chamber and in responding when one of them was shot in the hallway, as I just pointed out.

I know that the events of that day still weigh very heavily on him and on each of us—on his colleagues, on all of us. And I hope that he and his colleagues know that their grief weighs heavily on all of us whom they protect and serve.

President Joseph Biden, in speaking yesterday to the family of Officer Evans, showed empathy. He showed that he felt their pain, their concerns, their trauma. And I would urge all my colleagues, when you see members of the United States Capitol Police, uniformed or in plain clothes, that you thank them.

Mr. Speaker, I talked about Officer Chestnut. Wendy, his wife, as I said, was here yesterday. He was shot in the back by the assailant, who then shot Officer Gibson in the office that I now occupy. It was Tom DeLay's office at that point in time.

Mr. Speaker, we thank them, we honor them, but the way we really need to respond to them is to make sure they have the resources, the training, the equipment, and the authority to respond to those who confront them with violence and fatal force.

We lost Officer Sicknick. This Capitol was invaded because there were restraints, frankly, on the United States Capitol Police. We need to make sure that they have the authority to respond, to protect this Capitol, this democracy, our Members, our staff, the visitors to this Capitol, but also, importantly, themselves.

We know that this is a difficult moment and the Capitol Police force is facing challenges like never before in its 193-year history.

In the early 1960s, I worked here as an intern in a United States Senator's office, and I had a number of friends who also were in law school or some other school, who were "Capitol cops" we called them. Thankfully, the risks were minimal. That is not true today. And as the risks are great, we must respond robustly to ensure that we have the capacity and the will to meet those risks.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless and protect our U.S. Capitol Police officers.

□ 1015

PROTECTING AMERICANS' CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the Second Amendment is a fundamental piece of the U.S. Constitution. The right to keep and bear arms is one of Americans' inalienable freedoms. This has been true for centuries, and despite what the White House would like you to think, this is still true.

Right now, the left is advancing unprecedented threats to Americans' Second Amendment rights. Just last week, the President rolled out two executive orders that would restrict the rights of law-abiding citizens. The President proudly announced that he is willing to undercut our core constitutional liberties. With his pen and, I might add, without Congress, the President can singlehandedly unravel our rights.

Mr. Speaker, I fear that we are embarking on a perilous path. Now, more than ever, we must recommit to protecting this vital freedom.

Instead of stripping away Americans' constitutional rights, the U.S. Government should be focused on enforcing law and order. Instead of stripping away Americans' constitutional rights, the U.S. Government should be focused on protecting our citizens from gang violence, stopping human trafficking, and stopping the illicit drugs that cross our porous southern border.

The President is correct that we have a public health crisis. We have a public health crisis on the southern border. While the Commander in Chief spends time plotting ways to subvert the U.S. Constitution, the brave men and women of U.S. Customs and Border Protection are encountering record numbers of migrants attempting to cross the border unlawfully.

Last month alone, border agents encountered more than 170,000 migrants, a colossal 400 percent increase from the same time last year. Yes, this is indeed a crisis. But the problem is not with the law-abiding citizens. The problem is not with the Second Amendment.

Here in Washington, our leaders need to get their priorities in order. We need to uphold our oath to defend the U.S. Constitution. We need to defend the American people from foreign threats. And we need to protect our fundamental freedoms.

COMMITTING TO RECONCILIATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise because I love my country.

And, Mr. Speaker, I rise today understanding that we are in mourning. Our country is grieving. There are many reasons for this, but we still haven't acknowledged that there is something we can do to eliminate some of the mourning and grieving.

We are mourning because police officers are being murdered. Many have been murdered across the length and breadth of the country. We are mourning because persons are losing their lives at the hand of the police. Many have lost their lives. We are in a state of mourning, but it goes back far beyond George Floyd, Breanna Taylor, Sandra Bland. It goes back to really the founding of the country because we have not atoned for some of our transgressions. Literally, we have committed crimes against humanity for which we have not atoned.

Slavery was a crime against humanity; we have not atoned. What we did to the indigenous population was a crime against humanity; we have not atoned. The internment of the Japa-

nese, based upon our xenophobia, we have not atoned. Banning Chinese from the country, we have not atoned. What we did to Muslims, banning them from the country, we have not atoned.

There must be atonement. We have to reconcile. We did not do so in 1868, as it relates to slavery. We should have, but we had a President who was antithetical to it, Andrew Johnson.

So, I am going to offer a resolution, a resolution to create a department of reconciliation such that we can accomplish our atonement, get out of this grieving, and bring our country together.

When we had a systemic need for dealing with agriculture, we created a Department of Agriculture. When commerce was in need of some help, we created a Department of Commerce. We have a Department of Labor because labor needs the kinds of legislation and the kinds of benefits that a Congress can accord labor, the persons who actually work for a living. When we needed defense, we created a Department of Defense and a Department of Homeland Security.

So, I am proposing that we have a department of reconciliation so we can deal with the issues that have haunted this country for centuries. A department of reconciliation with a secretary of reconciliation, a department of reconciliation with a budget, a department of reconciliation with under secretaries so that we can accomplish our atonement with a department of reconciliation. It can be done.

I am not asking for a commission. This is about a commitment. A department indicates that you are committed to a cause. We were committed to labor; that is why we have a Department of Labor. We were committed to education; that is why we have a Department of Education. We now need a department of reconciliation, a commitment to ending this long, sorrowful grieving that we have suffered over the years so that we can understand each other better and work together better with each other.

If we fail to do this, if we fail to reconcile, Dr. King's words will become our greatest nightmare. He indicated that we must learn to live together as brothers and, I would add, sisters, or we will perish together as fools. We need a department of reconciliation. I will introduce a resolution for such.

KEEPING FOOD ON AMERICANS' TABLES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last month, the House Agriculture Committee hosted its first, or at least more fulsome, attempt at publicly reviewing the pandemic and Congress' response.

This pandemic has infiltrated our lives in every sense possible. Unfortu-

nately, the brunt of it was borne by our communities and, in particular, families already living paycheck to paycheck. In too many instances, arrogant career politicians issued statewide, indiscriminate edicts, forcing businesses and schools to shut their doors, plummeting our communities into a deep recession.

As the end of the pandemic nears, I hope we can use what we learned in that hearing to provide these families with more holistic services, particularly as they engage in a postpandemic economy that will look wildly different.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, currently provides nutrition assistance to 43 million individuals, with an average individual benefit of \$183. Total SNAP-related spending in fiscal year 2020 was \$78.9 billion, which includes benefits, administration, nutrition education, employment and training, and program integrity. Of that \$78.9 billion, \$74.2 billion was solely for benefits.

By way of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, and the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, more than \$37.8 billion has been appropriated to respond to the supplemental nutrition assistance needs of our communities.

This monumental response is in addition to the more than \$7.7 billion per month in standard SNAP benefits. Beyond direct funding from Congress, the former and current administrations have issued more than 4,000 administrative waivers to States. These waivers impact operations related to program eligibility, distribution of benefits, employment and training, and more.

These facts are startling. Combined with myriad social service policies, including those found in the short-sighted, outrageously naive American Rescue Plan, we are in the midst of our Nation's second-largest expansion of entitlements.

Unsurprisingly, leading economists and Wall Street analysts have said key parts of that bill are poorly targeted to the specific needs of the crisis. As a friend in southwest Missouri recently said, unnecessary rescue diminishes a person's dignity and, if repeated enough, gives way to debilitating dependency.

The witnesses who joined us for the hearing are our everyday heroes. They are the folks who responded without hesitation to the needs of their communities infested by a pandemic that took the lives of hundreds of thousands of our friends, neighbors, and family members. Whether it be the farmer who chose to donate their crop or the food bank that opened additional sites to be more accommodating, the witnesses who testified deserve our thanks.

I must also applaud the Department, particularly the former administration. Like it or lump it, the bulk of the

response originated in the last Congress under President Trump. Quick-thinking folks implemented Pandemic-EBT and the Farmers to Families Food Box Program, two projects that remain remarkably beneficial to families in need.

The latter, apparently terminating this morning, as I found out through the press, fell victim to inconceivable criticism. There is always room for more solutions to the needs of our Nation.

The Farmers to Families Food Box Program had open eligibility, making certain anyone and everyone in need, regardless of status, income, or household size, has supplementary access to meat, dairy, and produce in an unprecedented time of crisis. This program provided more than 156 million boxes to households across the United States. With this program, farmers were able to redirect their products, and American workers were able to sustain their employment or join new ventures, all to ensure fresh foods found their way into the homes of millions in need.

Regardless of the cherry-picked hiccups this committee and USDA's listening sessions were made aware of, the program worked exactly as intended. Shamefully, and because this was the brainchild of President Trump, the Biden administration has decided again to ignore rural America and continue to fund programs that favor billion-dollar organizations in the cities that they serve.

CALLING FOR RECOGNITION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GREEN of Texas). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 106th anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

The first genocide of the 20th century, the atrocity saw the massacre of more than 1.5 million men, women, and children at the hands of the Ottoman Empire.

As a young boy in Fresno, my Armenian friends told me the stories of the horrors that their parents and grandparents witnessed. They never forgot the tragedy, and neither will I.

After decades of inaction, both the House and the Senate passed resolutions in 2019, calling for the recognition of the Armenian genocide. It is my hope that the Biden administration will officially recognize these crimes against humanity.

□ 1030

Just this past year, we witnessed another atrocity against the Armenian people in Artsakh. There is no denying the attacks made by Azerbaijan and Turkey were premeditated and coordinated in an effort to eliminate the indigenous Armenian population of Artsakh.

No words on our part can undo the terror and brutality suffered by Arme-

nians, but actions can. We can learn from these atrocities and commit ourselves to ensuring that something like this never happens again, for starters, by requiring that Azerbaijan and Turkey comply with their agreement to release prisoners of war and civilians held captive by Azerbaijan.

It is time the United States reestablish its presence in this part of the world by standing up for human rights.

CRITICAL NEED FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address also a critical need for infrastructure in America. It is time that we build new transportation systems and rehabilitate structures to support a modern economy and a way of life in the 21st century. President Biden's American jobs plan is an attempt to do just that with historic investments in improving infrastructure and putting millions of people to work. We need that.

The goals of this plan is to help all Americans. I urge my Republican colleagues to help forge a bipartisan package to invest in America.

When it comes to transportation, California is leading the way by building the Nation's first sustainable, true state-of-the-art high-speed rail project. It will deliver a fast, reliable, and eco-friendly way to connect to Los Angeles, to the bay area, and ultimately 80 percent of the State's population, getting cars off the roads and cleaning our air.

It will spur an investment in the economy that will deal with the economic fallout of the pandemic, creating reliable, good paying jobs; supporting small businesses; and investing in socially disadvantaged communities. In my home of California's San Joaquin Valley, we are already seeing the benefits of high-speed rail.

My legislation, the High Speed Rail Corridor Development Act of 2021, will help fund this forward-thinking project and other rail corridors across the Nation.

Big projects we know are hard. They always have been. So bold action, if we are serious about improving our future, is necessary. Since I first came to Congress, it has been one of my highest priorities to invest in America's infrastructure.

What do I mean by this?

Investing in our Nation's water infrastructure, a 21st century system of transportation, nationwide broadband, and our schools are all investments that the majority of Americans want to see us make.

The debate we are engaged in now is how we define and what we can agree on in terms of infrastructure and how we pay for it because we must.

So let's show the American people that their government can work together and make important investments that are long overdue that will benefit America and regain our lead. Today, we rank 13th in the world in terms of infrastructure. That is not the place America ought to be. We need to

make these investments in our people and in our country, which are good investments that will pay dividends for future Americans and future generations to come.

HONORING MATTHEW GRUDA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Matt Gruda, my senior adviser and someone who has become both a friend and a confidant.

Matt will be departing our team and beginning a new and exciting chapter in his home State of Florida, and I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Matt and the remarkable work he has done for our team over the past 2 years.

Matt joined our team in 2019, and quickly became an asset to both our team and our district. His expertise, sincerity, thoughtfulness, quick wit, and always pleasant demeanor made him fast friends with so many in our community with a wide range of personalities for sure. He has touched so many lives, and he has made more of an impact than he realizes.

Mr. Speaker, I could rattle off a list of wins and crucial behind-the-scenes tasks attributed to Matt, but we would be standing here for quite a while. So to be brief, I want to thank him from the bottom of my heart for his many incredible efforts not just for Team FITZPATRICK, but for so many organizations, schools, businesses, local government officials, municipalities, and the people across Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

Matt does all things with passion, and he has given so much of his heart to our community. So much of what has been accomplished over the past 2 years would not have been possible without Matt's contributions.

Matt's drive, determination, positivity, and compassion are a winning combination and truly a rarity in this world. I believe this is why he has been and will continue to be so successful in all walks of life. He recognizes the importance and value in differing opinions and how we can learn from those who think differently from us; and to produce success, we often need to think outside the box; and to best serve our community and our country, we must give everything we have and never give up. He has led our team for over 2 years in this manner, inspiring creativity, collaboration, and passion throughout the ranks.

Matt's most admirable quality is his resiliency. I have spoken to Matt's mom, Zena, who talked about the fact that his road to get here was full of challenges, bumps, twists, and turns; yet he faces each one of them with an open mind and looks at them as an opportunity to learn and to improve and grow better.

From an early age, Matt's love of baseball was apparent. He would spend hours and hours practicing and throwing a ball against a wall; and once on the field, his eyes and smile reflected his unbridled enthusiasm and deep-rooted passion for the game. On the field, he was in complete control and nothing else mattered. Simply to be there in uniform along with his teammates was a great feeling for him.

Then, in seventh grade, he developed a tumor on his spine. After three extensive surgeries, Mr. Speaker, he was told he could not play the game anymore. For most kids, that heart-wrenching gut punch would be a pivotal moment in their life, one in which they would give up in defeat. But not Matt Gruda. Faced with a challenge and the unknown, he decided to seize on the opportunity, becoming the youngest assistant coach and umpire in the history of the league. He confronted his adversity, not viewing it as a stumbling block, but as a stepping stone to success. He has continued to build stepping stones to success with every challenge he has faced.

In speaking with the people who know Matt best, they described him as someone who does not hold a grudge; someone who is always looking on the bright side of things; someone who is kind, considerate, and is always eager to make you smile; someone who is a good friend, a caring brother, and a wonderful son; and someone whom you would always want on your team.

I know that I am grateful to have had Matt on our team for the past 2 years. He will always have an honorary spot on our bench. As a mentor, Mr. Speaker, I stand here today very proud of what Matt has accomplished and so excited for him to take this next chapter by storm. He is a bright, talented, and determined young man, and I look forward to seeing all that he will accomplish in life.

On behalf of our entire team and our entire community, we thank Matt.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COSTA). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, during times of crisis and upheaval, societies have a unique opportunity to reimagine themselves, to fix wrongs, and to make themselves better than they were previously. The pandemic of 1917 created the Roaring Twenties. The aftermath of the Civil War brought railroads, canals, and bridges to connect us. The Great Depression gave us the New Deal.

After the devastation of the COVID pandemic and the truth reveal of our systemic problems of racism, economic inequality, wealth and healthcare disparities, we must use this time and this opportunity to not only forge forward, but to correct wrongs. While the American Rescue Plan is changing the

course of the pandemic and delivering relief for working families, this is not the time to build back the way things were. This is a moment to reimagine and rebuild a new economy.

The American jobs plan is an investment in America that will create millions of good jobs, rebuild our country's infrastructure, and position this United States to outcompete China and other nations. The American jobs plan will invest in America in a way that we have not invested since we built the interstate highways and won the space race.

The United States of America is the wealthiest country in the world, yet we rank 13th when it comes to overall quality of our infrastructure. Public domestic investment as a share of the economy has fallen more than 40 percent since the 1960s. After decades of disinvestment, our roads, bridges, and water systems are crumbling. Our electric grid is vulnerable to catastrophic outages. Too many lack access to affordable high-speed internet and to quality housing.

The past year has led to job losses and threatened economic security, eroding more than 30 years of progress in women's labor force participation. It has unmasked the fragility of our caregivers' infrastructure. It has never been more important for us to invest in strengthening our infrastructure and our competitiveness, and in creating good paying union jobs of the future.

This must include a 21st century infrastructure—deployment of broadband and closing the digital divide in this country—creating the modern bridge that will unite and create more economic and opportunity equity in our country.

Unlike past major investments, President Biden's plan also prioritizes addressing longstanding and persistent racial injustice. The plan targets 40 percent of the benefit of climate and clean infrastructure investments to disadvantaged communities. The investment of \$100 billion in broadband internet will be the component that will make America a leader, an innovator, once again.

Broadband internet is the new electricity. It is necessary for Americans to do their jobs; to create jobs; to participate equally in school learning, healthcare, and to stay connected. It is estimated, however, that 10 percent—over 30 million Americans—live in areas where there is inadequate or no broadband infrastructure. Americans living in rural areas, on Tribal lands, and in the territories particularly lack adequate access. Even in our urban areas, many have stark differences in access to internet and to jobs.

President Biden's American jobs plan is visionary and exactly what people across this country have been asking from our Nation's leaders for years, even decades. Representing the Virgin Islands, I am especially excited about his focus on building infrastructure that is resilient to our changing cli-

mate, electrifying our highway system, investing heavily in transit and other cleaner mobility options, and working to eliminate the digital divide.

In announcing his plan, the President has taken our voices—the voices in Congress—and has put those words into action. The American jobs plan will not only make bold transformational investment in our Nation's transportation infrastructure, it will do so with an emphasis on creating good paying jobs, supporting American manufacturing, and investing in rural and urban communities alike.

Earlier this year, the New Democrat Coalition unveiled our agenda for the first 100 days of the 117th Congress. The New Dems share the Biden-Harris administration's vision to build back better, and we will work together to move our country forward.

We must rebuild our communities and our economy better than before with the American jobs plan. Now is the time to think boldly with a once-in-a-century investment to create millions of good-paying jobs.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF RC-135S CRASH IN ALASKA 2020

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the anniversary of the tragic loss of a 55th Wing RC-135 Cobra Ball aircraft on the remote island of Shemya, Alaska.

Forty years ago last month, Cobra Ball tail number 2664 crashed on approach to Shemya Air Force Base, a rugged outpost on the far western tip of the Aleutian Islands. Six brave American airmen perished in the fiery crash that day, an eternal reminder of the cost of the Cold War and the price of vigilance we too often take for granted.

The RC-135 reconnaissance aircraft—designated Cobra Ball—is designed to rapidly collect telemetry and special intelligence on ballistic missiles in flight. Throughout the Cold War and to the present day, reconnaissance crews from the 55th Wing are dispatched on short notice around the world to fly the RC-135 to gather technical intelligence on weapons tests that cannot be obtained by any other method. This information is used to verify treaty compliance and to support the continuous development of America's strategic and theater missile defense capabilities.

Throughout the Cold War, the Strategic Air Command kept the Cobra Ball on a continuous 24-hour alert status on Shemya Island in the northern Pacific, affectionately known as The Rock. Their job was to launch at a moment's notice to keep a watchful eye on Soviet ballistic missile tests conducted from the Kamchatka Peninsula.

On March 15, 1981, the 24 crewmembers on board the RC-135 tail number 61-2664 were en route to Shemya

from Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, where they had been waiting for the weather at Shemya to clear. Blizzard conditions and extreme crosswinds were ravaging the small exposed island. This weather was not uncommon, just another day at the office for 55th Wing aircrew. However, after receiving clearance to land, weather conditions deteriorated rapidly.

□ 1045

Firsthand accounts from crewmembers onboard describe the violent buffeting they experienced on descent as like being on the end of a yo-yo. The belly of the aircraft struck the edge of a cliff on the approach end of the runway, shearing off the landing gear. As the damaged aircraft slammed into the runway, engines three and four exploded and the fuselage broke in half. Flames engulfed the crew compartment as the disintegrating aircraft slid 2,000 feet, eventually careening off the runway and down a hill.

The scene was chaotic as crewmembers worked to free themselves and their teammates from the burning wreckage while the blizzard raged. Miraculously, 18 crewmembers escaped from the flames that day. Their bodies burned and broken, they worked feverishly to extract their fellow airmen from the fiery wreckage.

In the end, six men died on that lonely airfield that day. Their names were:

Major William Bennett,
Captain Larry Mayfield,
First Lieutenant Loren Ginter,
Master Sergeant Stephen Kish,
Staff Sergeant Steven Balcer, and
Staff Sergeant Harry Parsons, III.

We honor their service and their sacrifice and commend their spirit to the Creator. We pray for their families and loved ones who cherish their memory. We also honor the survivors of this tragic crash who will forever bear the scars of their service and the memory of that day. May we never forget what they gave to the cause of freedom, and that it was the dedication of warriors like these that won the Cold War. And may we pledge to honor their sacrifice by recommitting ourselves to eternal vigilance in the defense of freedom.

PROTECTING QUALITY OF LIFE OF VETERANS IS A TOP PRIORITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. LURIA) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LURIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2368, the COVENANT Act, legislation to ensure our Nation's veterans can receive the benefits they deserve after being exposed to toxic substances in the course of their service.

Mr. Speaker, protecting the quality of life of our veterans is a top priority of this Congress, and particularly for my colleagues on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, where I chair the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee.

One such veteran I have the privilege of representing, Master Sergeant Brian Graves of Virginia Beach, flew missions over the Middle East for the United States Air Force. Today, he lives with breathing problems after inhaling jet fumes and being exposed to other toxins during his time of service.

The COVENANT Act will dramatically streamline the VA benefits process for thousands of veterans like Master Sergeant Graves.

Between June 2007 and February 2021, we know that 13,900 veterans filed a disability benefit claim related to toxic exposure. Mr. Speaker, of those nearly 14,000 veterans, only 4,000 claims were granted. That is simply unacceptable. We cannot allow history to repeat itself. Veterans like myself watched our peers who served in Vietnam wait decades for the benefits they deserve.

The recent veterans who served in the Middle East, southwest Asia, east Africa, and the Philippines need our help today. Mr. Speaker, they are hurting and, in some cases, dying. Congress must not neglect them in their time of need.

That is why I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the COVENANT Act, a comprehensive approach to securing benefits for veterans exposed to toxic substances overseas.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CORPUS CHRISTI POLICE CHIEF MIKE MARKLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Corpus Christi, Texas Police Chief Mike Markle on his career of public service, and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement.

From his service in the United States Navy as a hospital corpsman to his 31-year career service at the Corpus Christi Police Department, Chief Markle has consistently placed the needs of others before himself. Enlisting in the police academy in 1989, he protected the streets for many years with courage and determination. He has served as a field training officer, on the Honor Guard, and on the SWAT team.

Corpus Christi turned to him to lead during the Police Department's transition in 2015. As head of the Corpus Christi PD, he pursued excellence in leadership and a commitment to learning. His priority was to improve community outreach and address the modern challenges of policing.

His legacy of helping others stretches beyond his police work, as he currently serves on the board of directors for the Wesley Community Center. There is no question that Chief Markle left a lasting impact on the Coastal Bend region, and he will be sorely missed.

I thank him for his commitment to protecting the citizens of Corpus Christi, and I wish him well in his future endeavors.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, we earnestly pray today to walk in Your presence. With You beside us, may Your nearness both inspire and compel us to take steps in response to Your divine mercy, in obedience to Your divine guidance, and in gratitude for Your divine compassion for us.

May each thought that comes to our minds be of Your will.

May each aspiration our souls conjure be worthy of Your blessing.

May every action we take reveal Your love to those who need it so desperately.

May every word we speak give honor to You.

It is our humble prayer that in everything we do today, we would be instruments of Your transcendent love in this place, of Your sacrificial love for all of creation, and of Your redeeming love for this world and for each of Your children.

We offer ourselves to You in the hope of Your mercy and in the strength of Your name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. FEENSTRA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FEENSTRA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR
THE HONORABLE JULIA LETLOW
FROM THE STATE OF LOUISIANA**

STATE OF LOUISIANA
Executive Department
CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

To the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives:

I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that, in accordance with the provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, on the 20th day of March, 2021, Julia Letlow was elected by the qualified electors of the Fifth Congressional District of the State of Louisiana as a Member of the United States House of Representatives to represent the State of Louisiana in the 117th Congress for the unexpired, remaining term of office. The votes cast, 67,203 for Julia Letlow; 28,255 for Sandra "Candy" Christophe; 5,497 for Chad Conerly; 929 for Robert Lansden; 464 for Allen Guillory; 402 for "Jim" Davis; 334 for Sancha Smith; 236 for M.V. "Vinny" Mendoza; 131 for Jaycee Magnuson; 67 for Richard H. Pannell; 62 for Horace Melton III; and 36 for Errol Victor, Sr., are on file and of record in the Office of the Secretary of State of Louisiana.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge on this 31st day of March, 2021.

JOHN BEL EDWARDS,
Governor of Louisiana.

Attest by the Secretary of State
KYLE ARDOIN,
Secretary of State.

[State Seal Affixed]

**SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE
JULIA LETLOW, OF LOUISIANA,
AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE**

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the members of the Louisiana delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise her right hand.

Ms. LETLOW appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 117th Congress.

**WELCOMING THE HONORABLE
JULIA LETLOW TO THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES**

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that on behalf of the entire Louisiana delegation and on behalf of all of my colleagues, we welcome JULIA LETLOW to Congress.

It has been quite a journey, and it is not a journey that she walks alone. This has been JULIA and Luke LETLOW's journey for over a year, and we all still grieve for the loss of Luke, who tragically died just days before he would have been sworn into Congress. But JULIA never backed down, never looked back. She moved forward, and she said we are going to continue this journey with her beautiful family.

Madam Speaker, up in the balcony, we have her 3-year-old son, Jeremiah, and her 1-year-old daughter, Jacqueline. We welcome them, as well as both JULIA's and Luke's families, who are in the balcony.

There are so many great attributes that JULIA is going to bring to this Congress. She graduated from the University of Louisiana Monroe. She has been in higher education her entire life and truly dedicated her life to serving others. She will be serving on the Education and Labor Committee, as well as on the Agriculture Committee, two important committees that enrich this country, as well as her district.

She has a great record of service. We are so excited to have her in our delegation. We are especially proud that JULIA becomes, today, the first Republican woman ever elected to Congress from Louisiana.

Madam Speaker, let me welcome our newest Member of Congress, JULIA LETLOW.

Ms. LETLOW. Madam Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to stand here today as the first Republican woman elected to Congress from Louisiana.

Representing the people of the Fifth Congressional District is a great responsibility, and I pledge to work hard for you in Congress.

My district is blessed with some of the best resources in the Nation, and no one knew that better than my husband, Luke, who was elected to this very seat but who we lost to COVID just days before he was set to take office.

Luke and I were a team with a goal to better our State and our country. I want to thank him for paving the way for me. I am here today to carry that torch forward, to be a voice for our farmers, to champion education, to help bring broadband to our rural communities, and to ensure our economy is thriving again.

The last year has not been easy for our country. Too many families, like mine, have experienced tragedy because of this pandemic. To those families, I see you, I hear you, and most importantly, I pray with you.

I want to thank my family, both the Letlows and the Barnhills, for being the rock-solid, godly people you are in my life.

I also cannot thank my staff, the Louisiana delegation, and my congressional colleagues enough for guiding me and welcoming me so fully. And I thank everyone who has reached out and prayed for my family these past few months.

Today, as I start my journey in Congress, I choose hope. I want to be part of a revival of honesty, integrity, and hard work within these hallowed Halls. I will stand up for what is right and true, bringing hope of a better tomorrow for my children and for yours.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Louisiana, the whole number of the House is 430.

**ELECTING A CERTAIN MEMBER TO
A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 310

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM: Mr. Quigley.

Mr. AGUILAR (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**ELECTING A MEMBER TO CERTAIN
STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 311

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR: Ms. Letlow

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: Ms. Letlow

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONGRATULATING JAMES BISH, CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE WINNER

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the winner of the Ohio Ninth Congressional District's second annual Congressional App Challenge, James Bish, of Bay High School in Bay Village, Ohio.

James' app, called Anonymous FRQ Grading, is an impressive tool for teachers and students to submit responses to essay questions free of bias in evaluation. James' application received strong scores in each phase, from concept to design to the skills shown to produce it.

The judges for this year's competition included computer science professionals and scholars from across the district, such as Max Herzog from the Cleveland Water Alliance and Kelly Zelesnik from Lorain County Community College.

I am amazed by the strong showing of submissions and participation from across the district that we received this year. Developing STEM education must be a priority not only within our community but across our Nation as well, and the Congressional App Challenge is an opportunity to foster such critical skills.

I offer my sincerest congratulations to James Bish on his win and thank him for the impressive and important work that went into creating this app. And I thank James' teacher at Bay High, Rob Grossman, who provided guidance and mentorship to James during this challenge.

PROTECTING INFANTS WHO SURVIVE ABORTIONS

(Mrs. WAGNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to implore my colleagues to join me in the fight to protect the most vulnerable in our society, infants who survive abortions.

Again and again, more than 75 times, Democrats have refused to even allow a vote on my legislation, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. This, Mr. Speaker, is shameful.

Every child should be welcomed with joy and wonder, no matter the circumstances of their birth. I will not stop working until this legislation is passed and signed into law, so all newborns have a chance at life.

Just 2 hours ago, Representative KAT CAMMACK filed a discharge petition so that Democrats can't continue to block the Born-Alive Act. It is my sincerest hope that every Member of Congress, Democrat or Republican, finds the courage to add their name to this petition. This is the simplest decision that any of us can make. Do you support ba-

bies receiving lifesaving care after they are born, or would you deny these children that care and murder them or leave them to die in front of you?

I am challenging Congress to stand up and do the right thing. I urge my colleagues to sign the discharge petition to ensure no American child is denied medical care.

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS AT OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, some of my Doctors Caucus colleagues and I took a trip to the southern border to observe the ongoing humanitarian crisis. What we saw was nothing short of tragic.

The bottom line is that the situation stems from several key Biden policies that have created an incentive for migrants to cross the border illegally. President Biden abolished the Remain in Mexico policy despite the fact that it helped migrants avoid numerous dangers. The policy was accompanied by his administration's moratorium on deportations, not abiding by title 42's expressed purpose.

Let there be no mistake, no one gets into this country without the expressed permission of drug cartels at our southern border. Not only are illegal immigrants coming in, but drugs, weapons, and human trafficking are coming now in record numbers.

Even worse, this crisis falls on terrified unaccompanied children. I will never forget seeing a 4-year-old with nothing on her back except her clothes and a telephone number written in Sharpie upon her chest.

Only securing our border will end this crisis. I ask the Biden administration to return to the previous administration's border policies.

□ 1215

HOUSE CHINA TASK FORCE

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, last year, I was proud to serve on the House China Task Force with a number of my Republican colleagues. Over six months through engagement and consultation with national security and trade officials, foreign policy experts, the business community, and government officials, we compiled and unveiled a comprehensive report with more than 400 policy recommendations for how to address the existential challenges posed by China.

Addressing the challenges posed by China will be one of the greatest issues Congress and our country face in the decades to come. As we confront these issues, bipartisan work is needed. The China Task Force report provides a

roadmap with specific policy ideas and goals regarding how the U.S. can better combat the threat of the Chinese Communist Party. Two-thirds of the legislative recommendations are bipartisan; and, overall, more than one-quarter of the recommendations have already become law or have been implemented by the prior Trump administration.

As members of the Ways and Means Committee, we authored important provisions of the report that will help return American intellectual property and critical supply chains to the United States. We also included legislation to reform and strengthen the World Trade Organization to level the playing field for American trade.

Mr. Speaker, to preserve and grow national economic security, we need to act. I ask everyone to read the report and work with us to get this done in a bipartisan way.

CELEBRATING 100TH BIRTHDAY OF RALPH JOHNSON FROM CHEROKEE, IOWA

(Mr. FEENSTRA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birthday of Ralph Johnson from Cherokee, Iowa, who turned 100 years old on Monday.

Ralph is a member of the Greatest Generation, serving in the Navy during World War II. He truly embodies the bravery, courage, and selfless sacrifice of an American patriot, working as a head mechanic in the Pacific theater.

If you talk with Ralph, he will tell you harrowing stories about his service, like the time the Japanese flew so low over his ship, he could see the pilot's face.

On behalf of a grateful nation, we thank Ralph for his service and sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take a moment to recognize Linda Sommerfeld and David Scott, who made Ralph's special day great.

Happy birthday, Ralph. We wish you many blessings.

DEMPSEY WAGNER IS KEEPING LEE COUNTY, IOWA, SAFE

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank a young girl in my district for her charitable actions this year.

For their birthday, most 6-year-olds ask their parents for gifts—a dollhouse, a puppy, or a trip to Disney World. But Dempsey Wagner of Lee County has decided to use her special day to raise funds to help keep Iowans safe.

Dempsey, who tragically lost two relatives to drowning in 2017, is using her sixth birthday to help raise money for the Lee County Rescue Boat. The rescue boat, along with a trained dive

team, have the capability to save many lives on the Mississippi and Des Moines Rivers and surrounding Lee County lakes.

Last year, Dempsey used her fifth birthday to raise \$3,000 for Lee County Crime Stoppers Police Puppies. But this year, Dempsey has used her sixth birthday to more than double her record, raising over \$13,610 for the Lee County Rescue Boat. My husband, Curt, and I were proud to contribute to this worthy cause.

It is “Iowa nice” stories like this that make me more proud to represent Iowa and the Second District.

Keep up the good work, Dempsey, and thank you for making both Lee County and Iowa safer.

BORDER CZAR KAMALA

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, weeks ago, the Biden administration made Vice President KAMALA HARRIS the border czar.

The question I have is: Which border?

We learned today that Czar Kamala is traveling to Guatemala. While we do need cooperation from Guatemala in halting the flow of illegal entrants from Central America, it defies logic that weeks after her appointment, Czar KAMALA HARRIS has not visited the very border—our border—with Mexico that she has been tasked with protecting.

It seems as if the Biden-Harris administration has gone out of its way to ignore the seriousness of the border crisis it has created. Even as the number of illegal border crossers and unaccompanied minors shatter records, Democrats have declared that everything under the sun is infrastructure except a border wall. In fact, a wall protecting our border might be the only thing Democrats do not want to throw money at right now.

To the Biden administration and Czar Kamala: Border security is national security, and the American people are pleading for you to take steps to end this crisis you created. It is time to answer their call.

SOUTHERN BORDER CRISIS

(Mr. MEUSER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, over the last few months, the situation at our border has evolved into a serious crisis caused by policy changes from the Biden administration that have incentivized illegal immigration. This is not my opinion; this is the information I received firsthand on my recent trip to the border.

These policy changes include: ending the “Remain in Mexico” policy; implementing catch and release; and suspen-

sion of the portion of title 42, which allowed for expelling unaccompanied minors. I witnessed massively overcrowded rooms, or pods, where many children are being held for weeks at a time.

The enormous influx of illegals has given the drug cartels the insidious opportunity to ship drugs into our country, leading to an increase in fentanyl smuggling by more than 2,000 percent and illegal weapons by more than 100 percent.

Of grave concern to those I spoke with is the rumor that title 42 will be fully rescinded by the White House, which would lead, Mr. Speaker, to an unmitigated disaster at our border.

We ask President Biden and Vice President Harris to actually visit the border, speak with the agents on the ground, and learn what is going on. This is not a Republican or a Democrat issue; this is a humanitarian and national security crisis that can be solved.

HONORING DOROTHY WILLIAMS MOORE ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Dorothy Williams Moore on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Dorothy was born in Hamptonville, North Carolina. She graduated from Catawba College, class of 1942, majoring in home economics. On March 20, 1946, she married Thomas Moore and moved to Charlotte. Dorothy and Thomas had four children: Luther, Louanna, Neil, and Cynthia.

Dorothy has proudly served as a mother, homemaker, and substitute teacher. She also taught Sunday school.

Thomas passed away in 1986, after nearly 40 years of marriage.

Dorothy still lives in Charlotte. She has five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. A double cancer survivor, she loves music and sang in her church's choir until the onset of COVID-19. She also enjoys sweets, especially chocolate ice cream.

It is an honor to pay tribute to Dorothy on her 100th birthday. She has led an amazing life, and her family is overjoyed to celebrate with her.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT JIM SMITH

(Mrs. HINSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sergeant Jim Smith, who died tragically in the line of duty this past Friday night in Iowa.

Sergeant Smith honorably served as an Iowa State trooper for 27 years. He was an incredible man who loved his

family, his State, God, his fellow troopers, and his community in Independence, Iowa.

My heart goes out to his wife, Kathy, and their two children. I hope that the family can find some comfort in knowing that he died a hero protecting his community, as he did every day for well over two decades.

Sergeant Smith and his service and sacrifice for Iowans will never be forgotten.

BE THE MATCH PROGRAM

(Mr. EMMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, many families, including my own, have been impacted by cancer. For more than 178,000 Americans diagnosed with a blood cancer like leukemia, lymphoma, or myeloma, the Be The Match program represents hope.

Founded in Minnesota, Be The Match runs the world's largest registry designed to connect patients in need of lifesaving blood or marrow transplants with a donor. In 2019, Be The Match facilitated over 6,500 transplants, giving hope to countless families around the world. Minnesota has long been a hub for this kind of medical innovation.

As a co-chair of the Personalized Medicine Caucus, I urge all of my colleagues today to support the TRANSPLANT Act and reauthorize Federal partnerships like Be The Match, which have impacted the lives of millions. Connecting patients with donors and developing the next generation of regenerative medicine truly represents the best of who we are as a society.

I thank Representative MATSUI and the other sponsors of this legislation for their hard work. I encourage everyone to help keep hope alive by supporting this bill.

REMOVAL OF NAMES OF MEMBERS AS COSPONSORS OF H.RES. 157

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove Representatives BILL HUIZENGA, JAY OBERNOLTE, and VICENTE GONZALEZ as cosponsors of H. Res. 157.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 14, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II

of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 14, 2021, at 11:24 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed Relative to the death of United States Capitol Police Officer William Francis "Billy" Evans S. Res. 152.

Appointments:

Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by the Speaker on Tuesday, April 13, 2021:

H.R. 1868, to prevent across-the-board spending cuts, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

UNITED STATES ANTI-DOPING AGENCY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 172) to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 172

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The United States Anti-Doping Agency—

(A) is the independent national anti-doping organization of the United States; and

(B) manages the anti-doping program, results management processes, drug reference resources, and athlete education for all United States Olympic Committee-recognized national governing bodies and the athletes and events of such national governing bodies.

(2) The United States Anti-Doping Agency contributes to the advancement of clean sport through scientific research, anti-doping education, and outreach programs, and the mission of the United States Anti-Doping Agency is to preserve the integrity of competition and protect the rights of athletes.

(3) Participation in youth sports has the potential to equip young athletes with important skills and values necessary for success in life, and it is essential that the culture of youth sports emphasizes such skills and values.

(4) The TrueSport program of the United States Anti-Doping Agency partners with youth sport organizations across the United States to promote sportsmanship, character building, and healthy performance through the use of targeted educational materials designed to promote a positive youth sport experience.

(5) In modifying the authority of the United States Anti-Doping Agency to include the promotion of the positive values of youth sport, Congress sends a strong signal that the goals of youth sport should include instilling in young athletes the values of integrity, respect, teamwork, courage, and responsibility.

(6) Due to the unique leadership position of the United States in the global community, adequate funding of the anti-doping and clean sport programs of the United States Anti-Doping Agency is imperative to the preparation for the 2028 Summer Olympic Games, which will be held in Los Angeles, California.

(7) Increased appropriations for fiscal years 2022 through 2030 would enable the United States Anti-Doping Agency to directly affect the integrity and well-being of sport, both domestically and internationally.

SEC. 3. MODIFICATIONS OF AUTHORITY.

Section 701 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 2001) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

"(1)(A) serve as the independent anti-doping organization for the amateur athletic competitions recognized by the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee;

"(B) be responsible for certifying in advance any testing conducted by international organizations under the World Anti-Doping Code for international amateur athletes and athletic competitions occurring within the jurisdiction of the United States; and

"(C) be recognized worldwide as the independent national anti-doping organization for the United States";

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(5) promote a positive youth sport experience by using a portion of the funding of the United States Anti-Doping Agency to provide educational materials on sportsmanship, character building, and healthy performance for the athletes, parents, and coaches who participate in youth sports."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(c) DUE PROCESS IN ARBITRATION PROCEEDINGS.—Any action taken by the United States Anti-Doping Agency to enforce a policy, procedure, or requirement of the United States Anti-Doping Agency against a person with respect to a violation of Federal law, including an investigation, a disciplinary action, a sanction, or any other administrative action, shall be carried out in a manner that provides due process protection to the person.".

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 703 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 2003) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 703. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

"There are authorized to be appropriated to the United States Anti-Doping Agency—

"(1) for fiscal year 2022, \$15,500,000;

"(2) for fiscal year 2023, \$16,200,000;

"(3) for fiscal year 2024, \$16,900,000;

"(4) for fiscal year 2025, \$17,700,000;

"(5) for fiscal year 2026, \$18,500,000;

"(6) for fiscal year 2027, \$19,800,000;

"(7) for fiscal year 2028, \$22,100,000;

"(8) for fiscal year 2029, \$24,900,000; and

"(9) for fiscal year 2030, \$23,700,000.".

SEC. 5. INFORMATION SHARING.

Except as otherwise prohibited by law and except in cases in which the integrity of a criminal investigation would be affected, pursuant to the obligation of the United States under Article 7 of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization International Convention Against Doping in Sport done at Paris October 19, 2005, and ratified by the United States in 2008, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Commissioner of Food and Drugs shall provide to the United States Anti-Doping Agency any relevant information relating to the prevention of the use of performance-enhancing drugs or the prohibition of performance-enhancing methods.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 172.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

□ 1230

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 172, the United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act of 2021.

For two decades, Mr. Speaker, the United States Anti-Doping Agency, or USADA, has worked to ensure integrity in our American Olympic and Paralympic sporting activities through the promotion and support of drug-free competition.

Recommended by an Olympic committee task force, this independent organization was established to manage a comprehensive anti-doping program in the United States. And since its authorization in 2000, USADA has helped to advance clean sports through scientific research, anti-doping education, and outreach programs.

To ensure USADA can continue this good work, H.R. 172 would extend and increase the authorization level through fiscal year 2030. Further, this bill would empower USADA to encourage a positive sporting environment for young athletes by providing educational materials on sportsmanship, character building, and healthy performance.

The bill also improves anti-doping efforts in the U.S. by encouraging Federal agencies to coordinate and share information with USADA to prevent the use of performance-enhancing drugs and methods.

Taken together, these actions will make positive improvements to the good work that USADA is already doing and provide critical support as

we lead up to the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles.

I want to thank my colleagues, Representatives MIKE THOMPSON, DIANA DEGETTE, and BILL JOHNSON for leading this important bipartisan legislation. I would also like to thank Ranking Member RODGERS and all the members and staff of our committee for their efforts to move this legislation forward in a bipartisan manner.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak in support of H.R. 172, the United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act, sponsored by Representatives MIKE THOMPSON, BILL JOHNSON, and DIANA DEGETTE.

This bill will reauthorize the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, USADA, which is the national entity charged with administering anti-doping programs in the United States for Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, and Parapan American sports.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency handles in-competition and out-of-competition testing, results management processes, drug reference resources, and athlete education for all U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee-recognized sport national governing bodies, their athletes, and events.

USADA is also the administrator for the Ultimate Fighting Championship Anti-Doping Program.

Reauthorizing this important agency will further the advancement of clean sports, fair games, and positive sportsmanship.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill. We will be hearing from one of my colleagues here in a moment, a colleague on the committee, BILL JOHNSON.

I also want to thank the chairman for working together to get this done today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) who is the lead sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 172, bipartisan legislation reauthorizing the United States Anti-Doping Agency, USADA.

Since 2001, USADA has been recognized by Congress as the official anti-doping agency for Olympic, Paralympic, and other sporting competitions in the United States.

The organization conducts drug testing for athletes, manages test results, and pursues bad actors who seek to undermine the principles of clean and fair support through the use of illicit or banned substances.

This important legislation reauthorizes USADA through fiscal year 2030 and provides a slight funding boost to

allow USADA to prepare for the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles, California.

In addition, this legislation requires USADA to devote a portion of its funding to clean sport initiatives for young athletes and authorizes the Department of Justice and other Federal agencies to cooperate with USADA in the course of its investigations.

I am grateful to my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee for advancing this legislation to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON), a colleague and leader on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act.

I thank my colleague, Representative THOMPSON, for his hard work to get this important legislation across the finish line; and I thank Ranking Member McMORRIS RODGERS for yielding time.

The United States Anti-Doping Agency, or USADA, has worked hard to ensure that our athletic programs are the best in the world, and also the cleanest. Critical to maintaining that success is ensuring our athletes are competing fairly, without the use of performance-enhancing drugs, which is why I have introduced the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act.

USADA must have the resources it needs to ensure the integrity of its programs and advance the American values of sportsmanship and playing by the rules on the global stage.

In addition to funding the agency, this legislation adds a special focus on clean sport training for young athletes and their coaches, and enables USADA to better coordinate with Federal law enforcement.

With the Olympics and other international sporting events just around the corner, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I urge support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 172.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

FOOD ALLERGY SAFETY, TREATMENT, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 578) to improve the health and safety of Americans living with food allergies and related disorders, including potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis, food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, and eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 578

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research Act of 2021" or the "FASTER Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. FOOD ALLERGY SAFETY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 201(qq)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321(qq)(1)) is amended by striking "and soybeans" and inserting "soybeans, and sesame".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to any food that is introduced or delivered for introduction into interstate commerce on or after January 1, 2023.

SEC. 3. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the "Secretary") shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(1) descriptions of ongoing Federal activities related to—

(A) the surveillance and collection of data on the prevalence of food allergies and severity of allergic reactions for specific food or food ingredients, including the identification of any gaps in such activities;

(B) the development of effective food allergy diagnostics;

(C) the prevention of the onset of food allergies;

(D) the reduction of risks related to living with food allergies; and

(E) the development of new therapeutics to prevent, treat, cure, and manage food allergies; and

(2) specific recommendations and strategies to expand, enhance, or improve activities described in paragraph (1), including—

(A) strategies to improve the accuracy of food allergy prevalence data by expanding and intensifying current collection methods, including support for research that includes the identification of biomarkers and tests to validate survey data and the investigation of the use of identified biomarkers and tests in national surveys;

(B) strategies to overcome gaps in surveillance and data collection activities related to food allergies and specific food allergens; and

(C) recommendations for the development and implementation of a regulatory process and framework that would allow for the timely, transparent, and evidence-based modification of the definition of "major food allergen" included in section 201(qq) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321(qq)), including with respect to—

(i) the scientific criteria for defining a food or food ingredient as a “major food allergen” pursuant to such process, including recommendations pertaining to evidence of the prevalence and severity of allergic reactions to a food or food ingredient that would be required in order to establish that such food or food ingredient is an allergen of public health concern appropriate for such process; and

(ii) opportunities for stakeholder engagement and comment, as appropriate, in considering any such modification to such definition.

(b) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall make the report under subsection (a) available on the internet website of the Department of Health and Human Services.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 578.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research Act, also known as the FASTER Act.

An estimated 32 million Americans, including approximately one in every 13 children, are affected by food allergies. These allergies can pose significant risks, particularly when inaccurate food labels fail to warn consumers about the presence of some of these allergens.

Under current law, eight allergens are considered major food allergens. These allergens include milk, eggs, shellfish, tree nuts, wheat, peanuts, and soybeans. Due to their status as major food allergens, manufacturers must clearly state the presence of any of these ingredients on labels.

Notably missing from this list of allergens is sesame. Sesame is considered an allergen of growing concern. While its prevalence has more than doubled over the last decade, it is not required to be listed as an allergen on food packaging. In fact, in some cases, a food may contain sesame, but the ingredient won't be listed at all on the labels, instead being referred to through nonspecific terms such as “spices” or words that may not be easily recognized by consumers as containing sesame, such as tahini.

While many may not recognize the significance of a simple ingredients label, for many families, a lack of clarity on ingredients could mean life or death for those who are allergic to sesame. Clearly, this information should be prominently featured on all packaged food labels.

This is an issue we have been working on for quite some time. I previously

introduced a bill several years ago that would list sesame as a major food allergen, and although the Food and Drug Administration opened a docket to solicit feedback about sesame labeling, the agency has not been able to require the listing of sesame due to overly long regulatory processes.

So today, Mr. Speaker, we are bypassing these regulatory delays and taking action. The appropriately-named FASTER Act would quickly move this process along by recognizing sesame as a major food allergen and requiring its listing on new food labels after a phase-in process.

The bill will also require FDA to report recommendations on how we can make additional improvements to protect individuals with food allergies, including ways to add additional major food allergens.

So I want to thank Representative MATSUI for her tireless work on this bill. She is the prime sponsor. We came so close to getting this over the finish line in the last Congress, and I am glad that today we are sending this bill to President Biden for his signature. I am proud to support the legislation. I encourage all Members to vote for it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 578, the Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research Act. This legislation is bipartisan, a companion of H.R. 1202, that was led by Representatives MCHENRY, GONZALEZ, and MATSUI.

S. 578 will designate sesame as a major food allergen. This means that, with the enactment of this legislation, manufacturers would have to list this ingredient on the food packaging label of products containing sesame.

Recent studies indicate that sesame allergies are of growing concern in the United States, with a prevalence rate on par with allergies to soy and fish, which are both listed as major allergens under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

This commonsense legislation will provide consumers with the information they need to protect themselves and their families from certain dangerous and life-threatening allergic reactions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI) who is the House sponsor of the legislation.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of two of my bills being considered under suspension today, the FASTER Act and the TRANSPLANT Act.

The Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research Act, FASTER—which wasn't as fast as I wanted it

to be, but this act will help to improve the safety of more than 32 million Americans, including 5.6 million children, living with potentially life-threatening food allergies.

Under current law, mandatory labeling is required for major food allergens recognized by the FDA like milk, eggs, and peanuts.

My grandson, Robby, has a peanut allergy, and for families like mine, accurate food ingredient labels are vital to making safe and healthy choices. The time we have spent reading the labels and having discussions about whether he can go to a birthday party or not, or go to camp or not, and having friends over, it was just heartbreaking. We need to have those labels be clear.

Critically, the FASTER Act extends these labeling protections to nearly 1.6 million Americans allergic to sesame by requiring sesame to be included as an ingredient on a packaged food label.

The bill also expands the research necessary to find new treatments and is an important step in the right direction to finding an eventual cure for food allergies.

Today is a testament to the hard work of thousands of grassroots advocates who sent emails, made calls, and visited Members of Congress and staff to build support and make sesame the ninth allergen to be labeled under law.

The outpouring of support was incredible. The FASTER Act will truly make a difference for those living with potentially life-threatening food allergies, and we are proud that it can now be sent to President Biden's desk.

□ 1245

I also rise today in support of H.R. 941, the TRANSPLANT Act, my legislation to reauthorize the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory for another 5 years.

Every 3 minutes, someone is diagnosed with blood cancer. For patients and families facing these fatal diseases, a bone marrow or cord blood transplant may be the best treatment or only potential for a cure.

Congress has long recognized the need to coordinate lifesaving transplants between patients and unrelated donors at the national level and has shown strong bipartisan support over the years for the program.

We must continue to encourage donors and give these patients with otherwise fatal blood cancers a second chance at life. That is why I joined with Representative BILIRAKIS to introduce the TRANSPLANT Act.

This past year, there has been a new sense of urgency for this timely reauthorization. We have seen how Be The Match's status, as the designated operator of the national program, has helped bone marrow couriers continue to facilitate transplants during the pandemic.

We must act swiftly to preserve this critical designation and ensure patients with otherwise fatal blood cancers continue to have access to transplants, both during and after the current public health crisis.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation today so we may further prevent any lapse in funding. I support both bills.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY), one of the leaders of this legislation and the leader of the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mrs. RODGERS, my classmate and a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee for yielding. It is an amazing thing to be with you here today, and it is an amazing thing to be here today to talk about this important bill.

As the lead Republican cosponsor of the House companion to S. 578, I rise in support of the FASTER Act.

Millions of Americans suffer from life-threatening food allergies. More than 1.5 million Americans are allergic to sesame, in particular, yet there is no current requirement to include the ingredient on product labels. This legislation would declare it the ninth major allergen to be recognized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and update laws to require the labeling of sesame.

This bill would also require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to regularly review promising food allergy treatments and research. This is a major bipartisan priority. These efforts will help slow this rapidly growing disease and ultimately find and fund a cure.

Finally, the FASTER Act establishes a scientific process and framework for establishing additional allergens covered by the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

I am proud to serve as cofounder and co-chair of the newly formed Congressional Food Allergy Research Caucus, along with Congresswoman DORIS MATSUI. We recognize there is more we can do to help those 32 million Americans, including many who are children who suffer from food allergies.

We can and we should do more to increase funding into research, therapies, and treatments for food allergies. Sending this legislation to the President's desk would be a major first step to achieving our goal of improving treatment opportunities.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote "yes" on this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, S. 578, the FASTER Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr.

PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 578.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

JOHN LEWIS NIMHD RESEARCH ENDOWMENT REVITALIZATION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 189) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide that the authority of the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to make certain research endowments applies with respect to both current and former centers of excellence, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 189

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "John Lewis NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. RESEARCH ENDOWMENTS AT BOTH CURRENT AND FORMER CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.

Paragraph (1) (beginning with "(1) IN GENERAL") of section 464z-3(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 285t(h)) is amended to read as follows:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Institute may carry out a program to facilitate minority health disparities research and other health disparities research by providing for research endowments—

"(A) at current or former centers of excellence under section 736; and

"(B) at current or former centers of excellence under section 464z-4."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 189.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 189, the John Lewis National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Endow-

ment Revitalization Act of 2021. This legislation would resume grants to minority academic institutions that fell out of eligibility for funding through the NIMHD Research Endowment Program.

By allowing those schools to resume eligibility, we will once again help these institutions conduct critical research into minority health disparities.

COVID-19, Mr. Speaker, has further exacerbated many of the inequities that minority communities experience when interacting with the healthcare system, inequities that we know existed long before the pandemic. In order to address the inequities in our healthcare system and in our society, we must confront them head-on and work together to eliminate them.

By supporting NIMHD and the academic institutions funded through it, we are helping to advance minority health disparity research and strengthen the diversity of the scientific workforce by recruiting and retaining individuals underrepresented in these fields.

This bill is a step toward progress and an equitable public health system. This bill is named after our former colleague, the late and great Congressman John Lewis from Georgia, who introduced this legislation last Congress. He was a dear friend and a longtime champion of eliminating disparities across the board, and he is certainly missed.

I want to thank my colleagues, the two sponsors, Representatives Barragan and Carter, for leading the effort on this legislation this year. This is truly bipartisan.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 189, the John Lewis NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act, which was introduced by my colleagues, Representatives Barragan, Carter, and Taylor.

This bill will authorize the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to award research grants to current and former centers of excellence that conduct research on minority health disparities.

Health inequities are disproportionately experienced by minority populations, and these disparities can have adverse impacts on health outcomes, economic opportunities, and overall quality of life. The current COVID-19 pandemic has only underscored these disparities, which is why this bill is so important.

Continued support of these centers of excellence is critical in advancing minority health, addressing health inequities, and expanding educational and training opportunities for those interested in further advancing research in this space.

I would like to thank my colleagues and especially my colleague on the Energy and Commerce Committee on the

Republican side, Representative BUDDY CARTER, for leading this initiative.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGÁN), a member of our committee and the lead sponsor of the bill.

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 189, the John Lewis National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Endowment Revitalization Act. This is a bipartisan bill that I introduced with my colleague from Georgia, Congressman CARTER.

It is fitting that this bill comes before us during National Minority Health Month because this legislation moves us closer to ending the public health disparities facing communities of color. We need to understand why people of color are more likely to get certain illnesses.

It is a tragic reality, but solutions are out there. H.R. 189 will fund the research that will help us find solutions and save lives.

This bill would, once again, allow for current and former NIMHD or Health Resources and Services Administration centers of excellence to receive research endowment funding, money that is critical in the fight to reduce minority health disparities.

The Research Endowment Program at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities provides funding to the endowments of academic institutions across the country, such as Charles R. Drew University in my district, Morehouse School of Medicine, University of Puerto Rico School of Dental Medicine, University of New Mexico School of Medicine, Howard University College of Pharmacy, and so many others.

The goal of the program includes promoting minority health and health disparities research capacity and infrastructure, increasing the diversity and strength of the scientific workforce, and enhancing the recruitment and retention of individuals from health disparity populations that are underrepresented in the scientific workforce.

This is critical legislation that is going to play a huge role in addressing and researching disparities.

During the COVID-19 health emergency, communities of color were once again disproportionately affected. Research into health disparities is more crucial than ever.

I want to thank my cosponsors, and I want to thank Chairman PALLONE for working to help me get this important bill to the floor. I urge my colleagues to support this bill. Let's get this done and across the finish line.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), an important leader on this legislation as well as on the committee.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, thank you to Congresswoman

BARRAGÁN for being a champion of this issue, and she truly is a champion of this issue.

The coronavirus has wreaked havoc on our communities, especially minority communities. Now more than ever, we must support minority academic institutions and the critical research they conduct.

Minority academic institutions can play a big role in helping to address the systemic health disparities minority communities are feeling.

We must ensure schools, including Morehouse College in my home State of Georgia, are able to conduct their research without disruption. Without a reauthorization of this program, health research will have to be paused or abandoned altogether. We must not let this happen. The efforts of these researchers will help better prepare all of us to respond to the coronavirus and other health inequities more effectively.

I urge passage of this very important legislation.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 189.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1300

TIMELY REAUTHORIZATION OF NECESSARY STEM-CELL PROGRAMS LENDS ACCESS TO NEEDED THERAPIES ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 941) to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 941

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Timely Reauthorization of Necessary Stem-cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies Act of 2021" or the "TRANSPLANT Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE C.W. BILL YOUNG CELL TRANSPLANTATION PROGRAM.

(a) ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS.—Subsection (a) of section 379 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(7) The Secretary shall convene the Advisory Council at least two times each calendar year."

(b) INCREASING COLLECTION.—

(1) TECHNICAL CLARIFICATION.—Effective as if included in the enactment of Public Law 114-104 (the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015), the amendment to section 379(d)(2)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k(d)(2)(B)) in section 2(a)(2) of Public Law 114-104 is amended by inserting "goal of increasing collections of high quality" before "cord blood units,".

(2) ELIMINATING DEADWOOD.—Subparagraph (B) of section 379(d)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k(d)(2)) is amended by striking the second and third sentences in such subparagraph.

(c) PERIODIC REVIEW OF STATE OF SCIENCE.—Section 379 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(o) PERIODIC REVIEW OF STATE OF SCIENCE.—

"(1) REVIEW.—Not less frequently than every 2 years, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the National Institutes of Health, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Advisory Council, and other stakeholders, where appropriate given relevant expertise, shall conduct a review of the state of the science of using adult stem cells and birthing tissues to develop new types of therapies for patients, for the purpose of considering the potential inclusion of such new types of therapies in the Program.

"(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than June 30, 2025, the Secretary shall—

"(A) complete the second review required by paragraph (1); and

"(B) informed by such review, submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives recommendations on the appropriateness of the inclusion of new types of therapies in the Program."

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 379B of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274m) is amended by striking "\$33,000,000 for fiscal year 2015 and \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020" and inserting "\$31,009,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026".

SEC. 3. CORD BLOOD INVENTORY.

Subsection (g) of section 2 of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 274k note) is amended to read as follows:

"(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$23,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026."

SEC. 4. ADVANCING THE FIELD OF REGENERATIVE MEDICINE.

Section 402 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(o) REGENERATIVE MEDICINE.—The Director of NIH shall, as appropriate, continue to consult with the directors of relevant institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health, other relevant experts from such institutes and centers, and relevant experts within the Food and Drug Administration, to further the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells, including autologous stem cells, therapeutic tissue engineering products, human cell and tissue products, human gene therapies, and genetically modified cells."

SEC. 5. GAO REPORT ON REGENERATIVE MEDICINE WORKFORCE.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and

Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that assesses a specialized health care workforce in the field of regenerative medicine. The report shall include—

(1) an overview of the current employment levels, in both commercial and academic settings, for—

(A) positions necessary for the collection and transplantation of stem cell therapeutics, including bone marrow and cord blood; and

(B) positions in the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells and related to product development;

(2) the identification of gaps, if any, in the projected workforce capacity for—

(A) positions described in paragraph (1)(A); and

(B) the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells, including workforce gaps related to the development of new cellular therapies using adult stem cells;

(3) an overview of the availability of training programs related to the development, refinement, and utilization of adult stem cells, including training on good manufacturing practices for such activities, and the performance of such programs; and

(4) recommendations, if any, for improving the workforce capacity related to—

(A) the positions described in paragraph (1)(A); or

(B) the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 941.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the C.W. Bill Young Transplant Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory Program facilitate lifesaving bone marrow and umbilical cord blood donations to help patients suffering from blood cancers, disorders, and diseases.

These critical programs assist transplant patients by providing additional information about bone marrow and cord blood transplants, maintaining an efficient process for identifying donor matches, and increasing the number of unrelated donors available for transplant. The programs also collect data and expand research to improve patient outcomes.

I thank my colleagues—Representatives MATSUI, BILIRAKIS, and PINGREE—for their bipartisan leadership on this bill, and I would urge my colleagues to support H.R. 941.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 941, the Timely Reauthoriza-

tion of Necessary Stem-Cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies Act, or the TRANSPLANT Act.

As co-chair of the Blood Cancers Caucus, I urge my colleagues to support the TRANSPLANT Act. This bill is about providing hope to those who are struggling with life-threatening illnesses. The TRANSPLANT Act reauthorizes the C.W. Bill Young Transplant Program, in addition to the National Cord Blood Inventory Program.

I remember Bill Young, Chairman Young, a great friend of ours, and he said that this was one of his greatest accomplishments. I also know that CHRIS SMITH, who will be speaking later, was also involved in this. He has been a champion on this issue, Mr. Speaker. So I appreciate both of them.

This Federal program provides critical support in the advancement of research for better treatments and the infrastructure necessary to organize registries, which will help ensure transplant patients have access to lifesaving procedures. Simply put, its continued reauthorization is vital for patients with diseases like blood cancer, sickle cell anemia, and inherited metabolic or immune system disorders.

I sincerely appreciate the work of my friend and colleague and fellow Blood Cancers Caucus co-chair, Congresswoman MATSUI, in addition to the legacy of bipartisan leadership and support of these programs by Members like, as I said, CHRIS SMITH.

I thank the chairman, as well and the ranking member, for placing this particular bill on the agenda. I know it will get through the Senate this time.

Additionally, I appreciate the critical daily work of the National Marrow Donor Program, operating the Be the Match national registry, connecting patients in search of a cure with lifesaving bone marrow donors, even in the midst of this historic pandemic.

I would also like to take a moment to recognize the great work of Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg, the president of the Cord Blood Association. She also serves in multiple roles at Duke University, including the director of Carolinas Cord Blood Bank. Dr. Kurtzberg has dedicated her professional career to cord blood research, banking, and transplantation; and she is an internationally recognized umbilical cord blood transplant. She advised Congress on the creation of the public cord blood banking program, which was part of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005. Dr. Kurtzberg continues to be a trusted adviser to Congress on this important program.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join us in expediting passage of this lifesaving bipartisan bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, but I think my colleague does, so I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives will vote to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act, a law that I authored in 2005. This was an original idea of mine 20 years ago.

My good friend from Florida just mentioned Dr. Kurtzberg. Dr. Kurtzberg was in the meetings that we held in drafting this legislation, and she provided incredible insights as to what we should do, what path we should follow. So I appreciate him recognizing her.

I also thank Artur Davis, who was my Democratic colleague and the principal Democratic cosponsor of the bill during those several years. It took 5 long years of hard work and numerous setbacks, but the bill was finally signed into law on December 20, 2005.

The new law created a nationwide umbilical cord blood stem cell program designed to collect, derive, type, and freeze cord blood units for transplantation into patients to mitigate and even cure serious disease. Pursuant to the law, it also provided stem cells for research. The new cord blood program was combined with an expanded bone marrow initiative, which was crafted over several years by our distinguished colleague, Congressman Bill Young.

Umbilical cord blood stem cells, Mr. Speaker, obtained after the birth of a child have proved to be highly efficacious in treating some 70 diseases, including sickle cell disease, lymphoma, leukemia, and in treating metabolic and immune deficiencies. Scientists are continuing to study and better understand the regenerative effects of cord blood cell therapies for other diseases and disabilities, including autism. I would say in like manner, bone marrow donations are also providing lifesaving transplants for some of those very same diseases. So we have great regenerative initiatives that will be continued.

The National Cord Blood Inventory, NCBI, provides funding to public cord blood banks participating in the program to allow them to expand the national inventory of cord blood units available for transplant. These units are then listed on the registry by the Be the Match program. The funds appropriated thus far have led to an important increase in the overall number of high-quality cord blood units available through the national registry, now totaling 111,000 NCBI units. Within the Be the Match Registry, there are now more than 800,000 worldwide.

The program registry, Mr. Speaker, allows patients and physicians to locate matching cord blood units, as well as adult donors for marrow and peripheral blood stem cells. The program is the world's largest, most diverse donor registry, with more than 23 million volunteers. To date, the National Marrow Donor Program/Be the Match, through its operation of the program, has facilitated more than 105,000 transplants.

According to Be the Match, more than 40,000 patients have received cord blood transplants.

The reauthorization before us authorizes \$23 million each year for 5 years for the cord blood side and, again, some \$30 million each year for the bone marrow program.

Mr. Speaker, each year, nearly 4 million babies are born in America. In the past, virtually every placenta and umbilical cord was tossed as medical waste. Today, doctors have turned this medical waste into medical miracles.

Not only has God, in His wisdom and goodness, created a placenta and an umbilical cord to nurture and protect the precious life of an unborn child, but now we know that another gift awaits immediately after birth. Something very special is left behind: Cord blood that is teeming with lifesaving stem cells.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, this is a very important bill and needs to pass as soon as possible. I really appreciate the chairman placing the bill on the agenda. I urge the Senate to pass it as soon as possible, and, of course, my colleagues today, if we can pass this bill immediately so we can get it to the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 941.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

ADVANCING EDUCATION ON BIOSIMILARS ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 164) to educate health care providers and the public on biosimilar biological products, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 164

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Advancing Education on Biosimilars Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. EDUCATION ON BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS.

Subpart 1 of part F of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: “SEC. 352A. EDUCATION ON BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS.

“(a) INTERNET WEBSITE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may maintain and operate an internet website to provide educational materials for health care providers, patients, and caregivers, regarding the meaning of the terms, and the standards for review and licensing of, biological products, including biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products.

“(2) CONTENT.—Educational materials provided under paragraph (1) may include—

“(A) explanations of key statutory and regulatory terms, including ‘biosimilar’ and ‘interchangeable’, and clarification regarding the use of interchangeable biosimilar biological products;

“(B) information related to development programs for biological products, including biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products and relevant clinical considerations for prescribers, which may include, as appropriate and applicable, information related to the comparability of such biological products;

“(C) an explanation of the process for reporting adverse events for biological products, including biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products; and

“(D) an explanation of the relationship between biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products licensed under section 351(k) and reference products (as defined in section 351(i)), including the standards for review and licensing of each such type of biological product.

“(3) FORMAT.—The educational materials provided under paragraph (1) may be—

“(A) in formats such as webinars, continuing education modules, videos, fact sheets, infographics, stakeholder toolkits, or other formats as appropriate and applicable; and

“(B) tailored for the unique needs of health care providers, patients, caregivers, and other audiences, as the Secretary determines appropriate.

“(4) OTHER INFORMATION.—In addition to the information described in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall continue to publish—

“(A) the action package of each biological product licensed under subsection (a) or (k) of section 351; or

“(B) the summary review of each biological product licensed under subsection (a) or (k) of section 351.

“(5) CONFIDENTIAL AND TRADE SECRET INFORMATION.—This subsection does not authorize the disclosure of any trade secret, confidential commercial or financial information, or other matter described in section 552(b) of title 5.

“(b) CONTINUING EDUCATION.—The Secretary shall advance education and awareness among health care providers regarding biological products, including biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products, as appropriate, including by developing or improving continuing education programs that advance the education of such providers on the prescribing of, and relevant clinical considerations with respect to, biological products, including biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 164.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the rising cost of prescription drugs continues to be a major issue for families all across the country. These costs are particularly daunting at a time when we are facing a severe economic downturn and the ongoing pandemic.

We are committed to continuing to find solutions to make prescription drugs more affordable for the American people. One important way to help families out is to ensure they are aware of more affordable options, like biosimilars and generics. These are both cheaper options, but, unfortunately, utilization of these products continues to be too low here in the United States.

The Advancing Education on Biosimilars Act of 2021 is commonsense legislation that will help provide patients and healthcare providers with greater information about biologics and biosimilars. To do this, the bill requires the FDA to establish a public website with educational materials, including what products are interchangeable, as well as how to report any adverse events.

In addition, the bill would support the development of continuing education programs for healthcare providers about biologics. It is critical that healthcare providers and patients are aware of all of their options, and this legislation will certainly help do that.

I am pleased to work with my colleagues in the Senate on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 164, the Advancing Education on Biosimilars Act.

This bill is a bipartisan companion to H.R. 1873, championed in the House by Dr. BUCSHON and Congressman PETERS.

This bill would require the FDA to maintain and operate an internet website to provide educational materials for healthcare providers, patients, and caregivers on biological products, including biosimilar products and interchangeable biosimilar products.

It also would require the Department of Health and Human Services, HHS, to develop continuing education programs or to improve existing programs for healthcare providers, such as doctors and nurses, to promote a better understanding of biosimilar interchangeable products.

By increasing awareness about available biosimilar products and providing educational resources for physicians

and patients about their benefits, we can increase adoption of these lower cost alternative therapies when appropriate and drive down drug costs for Americans across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bipartisan effort to lower drug costs through the uptake of biosimilar products, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON), a great member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and a great resource for us nonphysicians.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak in support of S. 164, the Advancing Education on Biosimilars Act of 2021, which is the Senate companion of H.R. 1873, a bill that I introduced with my friend and colleague, Congressman SCOTT PETERS from California.

This bipartisan, bicameral bill will require FDA to create a public website to educate patients and providers about biological and biosimilar products.

As new biological and biosimilar products become available, it is important that physicians have current information on these therapies in order to choose the best treatment for their patients.

Availability of information and education on these new and complex treatments for providers and patients will lead to healthy competition in the biologic and biosimilar product space and ultimately help to lower the cost of these important drugs for patients.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I look forward to the President signing it into law.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge everyone to vote to pass this bill so we can quickly make this law and get it to the President.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 164.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

AMENDING FEDERAL FOOD, DRUG, AND COSMETIC ACT WITH RESPECT TO SCOPE OF NEW CHEMICAL EXCLUSIVITY

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 415) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the scope of new chemical exclusivity.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 415

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CLARIFYING THE MEANING OF NEW CHEMICAL ENTITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act is amended—

(1) in section 505 (21 U.S.C. 355)—

(A) in subsection (c)(3)(E), by striking “active ingredient (including any ester or salt of the active ingredient)” each place it appears and inserting “active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations))”;

(B) in subsection (j)(5)(F), by striking “active ingredient (including any ester or salt of the active ingredient)” each place it appears and inserting “active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations))”;

(C) in subsection (l)(2)(A)—

(i) by amending clause (i) to read as follows:

“(i) not later than 30 days after the date of approval of such applications—

“(I) for a drug, no active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)) of which has been approved in any other application under this section; or

“(II) for a biological product, no active ingredient of which has been approved in any other application under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act; and”;

(ii) in clause (ii), by inserting “or biological product” before the period;

(D) by amending subsection (s) to read as follows:

“(s) REFERRAL TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The Secretary shall—

“(1) refer a drug or biological product to a Food and Drug Administration advisory committee for review at a meeting of such advisory committee prior to the approval of such drug or biological if it is—

“(A) a drug, no active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)) of which has been approved in any other application under this section; or

“(B) a biological product, no active ingredient of which has been approved in any other application under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act; or

“(2) if the Secretary does not refer a drug or biological product described in paragraph (1) to a Food and Drug Administration advisory committee prior to such approval, provide in the action letter on the application for the drug or biological product a summary of the reasons why the Secretary did not refer the drug or biological product to an advisory committee prior to approval.”;

(E) in subsection (u)(1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “active ingredient (including any ester or salt of the active ingredient)” and inserting “active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of

title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations))”;

(ii) by striking “same active ingredient” and inserting “same active moiety”;

(2) in section 512(c)(2)(F) (21 U.S.C. 360b(c)(2)(F)), by striking “active ingredient (including any ester or salt of the active ingredient)” each place it appears and inserting “active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations))”;

(3) in section 524(a)(4) (21 U.S.C. 360n(a)(4)), by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

“(C) is for—

“(i) a human drug, no active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)) of which has been approved in any other application under section 505(b)(1); or

“(ii) a biological product, no active ingredient of which has been approved in any other application under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act.”;

(4) in section 529(a)(4) (21 U.S.C. 360ff(a)(4)), by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

“(A) is for a drug or biological product that is for the prevention or treatment of a rare pediatric disease;

“(B)(i) is for such a drug—

“(I) that contains no active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)) that has been previously approved in any other application under subsection (b)(1), (b)(2), or (j) of section 505; and

“(II) that is the subject of an application submitted under section 505(b)(1); or

“(ii) is for such a biological product—

“(I) that contains no active ingredient that has been previously approved in any other application under section 351(a) or 351(k) of the Public Health Service Act; and

“(II) that is the subject of an application submitted under section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act.”;

(5) in section 565A(a)(4) (21 U.S.C. 360bbb-4a(a)(4)), by amending subparagraph (D) to read as follows:

“(D) is for—

“(i) a human drug, no active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)) of which has been approved in any other application under section 505(b)(1); or

“(ii) a biological product, no active ingredient of which has been approved in any other application under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act.”;

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—Chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 505 (21 U.S.C. 355)—

(A) in subsection (c)(3)(E), by repealing clause (i); and

(B) in subsection (j)(5)(F), by repealing clause (i); and

(2) in section 505A(c)(1)(A)(i)(II) (21 U.S.C. 355a(c)(1)(A)(i)(II)), by striking “(c)(3)(D)” and inserting “(c)(3)(E)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to

revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 415.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, rising prescription drug costs are a concern for so many Americans. Skyrocketing costs can result in some people postponing or altering treatment because the necessary drugs are simply priced out of reach.

One way to help reduce drug costs is to provide early access to generic drugs. This legislation we are considering today will help to do that by ensuring that exclusivity, which can delay generics from entering the market, is only made available to truly innovative products. This will ensure that drug manufacturers cannot game the system by simply making small tweaks to old drugs as a way to block or delay competition. The legislation will also codify the Food and Drug Administration's current approach to awarding exclusivity.

I thank Representatives SCHRADER and GUTHRIE for their bipartisan work on this legislation with Senators CASSIDY, SMITH, and MARSHALL.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 415, the Ensuring Innovation Act. This legislation is the bipartisan companion to H.R. 1857 led by Representatives GUTHRIE and SCHRADER.

This legislation would ensure that only the most innovative products are eligible for certain market exclusivities and would increase the availability of lower-cost generic drugs. Great work by these Representatives.

Currently, the FDA grants 5 years of marketing exclusivity to drug products determined to be a new chemical entity. Clarifying what qualifies as a new chemical entity will prevent drug manufacturers from receiving exclusivity by making minor changes to existing drugs, which would block generic competition from the market.

This important bipartisan legislation will help lower prescription drug prices while preserving incentives to innovate.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. SCHRADER), a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of S. 415, a bill that has the same policy as my own and Mr. GUTHRIE's here in the House, H.R. 1857, the Protecting Access to Safe and Effective Medicines Act.

This bill is a simple fix, providing clarity around the drug approval proc-

ess by increasing the specificity of the language companies may use when submitting these complex and often lengthy applications. Simply put, utilizing the term "active ingredient" opens the unintended opportunity for pharmaceutical companies to make minor, relatively nonpharmacological changes to the same chemical and prevent generic alternatives from coming to the marketplace. By changing this language, as this bill does, to "active moiety," we will be able to close another loophole that can be exploited by companies to inappropriately obtain exclusivity and hold back competition in the marketplace, the key mechanism for lowering drug prices.

While this is good policy, it is one small piece of the larger drug-pricing conversation that we need to have. It demonstrates, yet again, that the policies to lower drug prices are bipartisan and bicameral. In fact, there are many such policies that did not get done in the last Congress that offer a starting point for a comprehensive approach addressing drug pricing, and now is the time to continue this important work.

I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for the help in supporting this important bill before us today, and I urge its passage.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this great bill. I commend my colleagues for focusing on this particular issue, which is just so important to our constituents. Again, let's pass this bill as soon as possible and get it to the President.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 415.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FRAUD AND SCAM REDUCTION ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1215) to establish an office within the Federal Trade Commission and an outside advisory group to prevent fraud targeting seniors and to direct the Commission to include additional information in an annual report to Congress on fraud targeting seniors, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1215

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Fraud and Scam Reduction Act".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—PREVENTING CONSUMER SCAMS DIRECTED AT SENIORS

Sec. 101. Short title.

Sec. 102. Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group.

TITLE II—SENIOR FRAUD ADVISORY OFFICE

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Office for the Prevention of Fraud Targeting Seniors.

TITLE III—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

Sec. 301. Budgetary effects.

TITLE I—PREVENTING CONSUMER SCAMS DIRECTED AT SENIORS

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Stop Senior Scams Act".

SEC. 102. SENIOR SCAMS PREVENTION ADVISORY GROUP.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group (referred to in this title as the "Advisory Group").

(b) MEMBERS.—The Advisory Group shall be composed of stakeholders such as the following individuals or the designees of those individuals:

(1) The Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) The Secretary of the Treasury.

(3) The Attorney General.

(4) The Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

(5) Representatives from each of the following sectors, including trade associations, to be selected by the Federal Trade Commission:

(A) Retail.

(B) Gift cards.

(C) Telecommunications.

(D) Wire-transfer services.

(E) Senior peer advocates.

(F) Consumer advocacy organizations with efforts focused on preventing seniors from becoming the victims of scams.

(G) Financial services, including institutions that engage in digital currency.

(H) Prepaid cards.

(6) A member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

(7) A prudential regulator, as defined in section 1002 of the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5481).

(8) The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

(9) Any other Federal, State, or local agency, industry representative, consumer advocate, or entity, as determined by the Federal Trade Commission.

(c) NO COMPENSATION FOR MEMBERS.—A member of the Advisory Group shall serve without compensation in addition to any compensation received for the service of the member as an officer or employee of the United States, if applicable.

(d) DUTIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Group shall—

(A) collect information on the existence, use, and success of educational materials and programs for retailers, financial services, and wire-transfer companies, which—

(i) may be used as a guide to educate employees on how to identify and prevent scams that affect seniors; and

(ii) include—

(I) useful information for retailers, financial services, and wire transfer companies for the purpose described in clause (i);

(II) training for employees on ways to identify and prevent senior scams;

(III) best practices for keeping employees up to date on current scams;

(IV) the most effective signage and placement in retail locations to warn seniors about scammers' use of gift cards, prepaid cards, and wire transfer services;

(V) suggestions on effective collaborative community education campaigns;

(VI) available technology to assist in identifying possible scams at the point of sale; and

(VII) other information that would be helpful to retailers, wire transfer companies, financial institutions, and their employees as they work to prevent fraud affecting seniors; and

(B) based on the findings in subparagraph (A)—

(i) identify inadequacies, omissions, or deficiencies in those educational materials and programs for the categories listed in subparagraph (A) and their execution in reaching employees to protect older adults; and

(ii) create model materials, best practices guidance, or recommendations to fill those inadequacies, omissions, or deficiencies that may be used by industry and others to help protect older adults from scams.

(2) ENCOURAGED USE.—The Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission shall—

(A) make the materials or guidance created by the Federal Trade Commission described in paragraph (1) publicly available; and

(B) encourage the use and distribution of the materials created under this subsection to prevent scams affecting seniors by governmental agencies and the private sector.

(e) REPORTS.—Section 101(c)(2) of the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (34 U.S.C. 21711(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(iv), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) with respect to the report by the Federal Trade Commission, in relevant years, including information on—

“(i) the newly created materials, guidance, or recommendations of the Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group established under section 102 of the Stop Senior Scams Act and any relevant views or considerations made by members of the Advisory Group that were not included in the Advisory Group's model materials or considered an official recommendation by the Advisory Group;

“(ii) the Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group's findings about senior scams and industry educational materials and programs; and

“(iii) any recommendations on ways stakeholders can continue to work together to reduce scams affecting seniors.”.

(f) TERMINATION.—This title, and the amendments made by this title, ceases to be effective on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

TITLE II—SENIOR FRAUD ADVISORY OFFICE

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Seniors Fraud Prevention Act of 2021”.

SEC. 202. OFFICE FOR THE PREVENTION OF FRAUD TARGETING SENIORS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY OFFICE.—The Federal Trade Commission shall establish an office within the Bureau of Consumer Protection for the purpose of advising the Commission on the prevention of fraud targeting seniors and to assist the Commission with the following:

(1) OVERSIGHT.—The advisory office shall monitor the market for mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and recorded message telephone call (hereinafter referred to as “robocall”) fraud targeting seniors and

shall coordinate with other relevant agencies regarding the requirements of this section.

(2) CONSUMER EDUCATION.—The Commission through the advisory office shall, in consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Postmaster General, the Chief Postal Inspector for the United States Postal Inspection Service, and other relevant agencies—

(A) disseminate to seniors and families and caregivers of seniors general information on mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud targeting seniors, including descriptions of the most common fraud schemes;

(B) disseminate to seniors and families and caregivers of seniors information on reporting complaints of fraud targeting seniors either to the national toll-free telephone number established by the Commission for reporting such complaints, or to the Consumer Sentinel Network, operated by the Commission, where such complaints will become immediately available to appropriate law enforcement agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the attorneys general of the States;

(C) in response to a specific request about a particular entity or individual, provide publicly available information of enforcement action taken by the Commission for mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud against such entity; and

(D) maintain a website to serve as a resource for information for seniors and families and caregivers of seniors regarding mail, television, internet, telemarketing, robocall, and other identified fraud targeting seniors.

(3) COMPLAINTS.—The Commission through the advisory office shall, in consultation with the Attorney General, establish procedures to—

(A) log and acknowledge the receipt of complaints by individuals who believe they have been a victim of mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud in the Consumer Sentinel Network, and shall make those complaints immediately available to Federal, State, and local law enforcement authorities; and

(B) provide to individuals described in subparagraph (A), and to any other persons, specific and general information on mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud, including descriptions of the most common schemes using such methods of communication.

(b) COMMENCEMENT.—The Commission shall commence carrying out the requirements of this section not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

TITLE III—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

SEC. 301. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1215.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1215, the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act. This bipartisan bill was introduced by Representatives BLUNT ROCHESTER and WALBERG with strong bipartisan support of 16 other Members. It also incorporates a bill originally introduced by Representatives DEUTCH, BUCHANAN, and WELCH.

Reducing scams and fraud is an issue of utmost importance in every community and especially so during these uncertain and unprecedented times. Right now, we are seeing the best of humanity, but unscrupulous scammers and fraudsters still abound, seeking to capitalize on the confusion and fear that is out there.

Seniors are especially vulnerable. According to the most recent report from the Federal Trade Commission, older adults reported nearly \$400 million in losses from fraud in 2018. It is rare to recover these losses. We all need to work together to protect senior citizens from scams before they fall victim and suffer monetary losses.

Mr. Speaker, this bill establishes a new senior scams prevention advisory group composed of relevant government agencies and industry representatives to collect and implement best practices that stop scammers before they can cause harm. It will also establish new programs to prevent fraud that targets seniors. The legislation will also improve educational materials on senior scams and make sure that they are publicly available.

This legislation also establishes an office at the FTC dedicated to preventing fraud targeting seniors and monitoring the market for such fraud. This office will also assist the FTC in monitoring the market for mail, television, internet, and telemarketing fraud targeting seniors. The office will also help with consumer education on fraud targeting seniors.

The bill will help reinforce the efforts of the FTC to prevent fraud and mitigate the massive losses from fraud targeting seniors.

I urge my colleagues to support this important measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1215, the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act. I want to thank Representative BLUNT ROCHESTER, my good friend Representative WALBERG, and the other members of the Energy and Commerce Committee for their tireless work on this important bill.

H.R. 1215 would establish a senior scams prevention advisory council, which will create model educational materials to inform employees of retail companies and financial institutions on how to identify and prevent scams.

This bill would work in concert with other recently enacted legislation to provide Americans with the tools they need to educate and protect themselves against these bad actors. It is a very good bill, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER), who is also a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman PALLONE for his tireless work to advance this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 1215, the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act. Bad actors preying on older Americans is unfortunately nothing new, but in the midst of a global pandemic, cracking down on those scams must be a priority of the Federal Government.

That is why I proudly introduced the bipartisan Fraud and Scam Reduction Act with my colleagues Mr. WALBERG, DEUTCH, BUCHANAN, and WELCH.

The bill, as its name suggests, was aimed at cracking down on these scams by doing two main things. It would create an advisory group under the Federal Trade Commission made up of government agencies, consumer advocates, and industry representatives, such as financial services and retail, to help identify potential sources of fraud and create educational materials for our Nation's seniors to protect them from these dangerous schemes. It would also establish the senior fraud advisory office, which would give seniors hope in recovering their assets stolen by fraudsters and improve our understanding of senior fraud by encouraging seniors to report this activity.

We are proud to say that the bill has broad support, including AARP, the Retail Industry Leaders Association, Target, Best Buy, Walmart, and Western Union, as well as many more.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most fundamental obligations of government is to protect our citizens. The least we can do is protect already vulnerable seniors from being taken advantage of by bad actors.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, for their work in strengthening the bill, and I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of the measure.

□ 1330

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from the great State of Michigan (Mr. WALBERG), my good friend.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Florida for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1215, Fraud and Scam Reduction Act, and thank my colleague and friend, Representative BLUNT ROCHESTER, as

well as the Committee on Energy and Commerce staff for their hard work in bringing the bill to the floor today.

Sadly, in today's digital age, scams targeting seniors and their hard-earned money are growing in number and sophistication.

Every year, scammers steal billions of dollars from unsuspecting consumers. The effect on victims can be financially and emotionally devastating, and the COVID-19 pandemic has only made things worse. Safeguarding seniors in Michigan and across the country needs to be a top priority.

Retailers have diligently worked to combat these crimes. Their ability to educate their employees with best practices and training to recognize the signs of a scam can make a huge difference in stopping criminals.

Our bipartisan bill builds upon the work retailers are doing by creating a Federal advisory council at the FTC to create a unified front against criminals who target our most vulnerable citizens and stop this fraud before it is too late.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to pass H.R. 1215 so we can help stop scammers from perpetrating a fraud and taking advantage of our loved ones and our neighbors.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge Congress to pass this bill and get it to the President—actually, before that, we have to get it to the Senate and pass it immediately to protect our seniors, particularly during this very difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1215, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

NICHOLAS AND ZACHARY BURT MEMORIAL CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1460) to encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1460

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas produced by burning any fuel. Exposure to unhealthy levels of carbon monoxide can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning, a serious health condition that could result in death.

(2) Unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning from motor vehicles and improper operation of fuel-burning appliances, such as furnaces, water heaters, portable generators, and stoves, annually kills more than 400 individuals and sends approximately 15,000 individuals to hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

(3) Research shows that installing carbon monoxide alarms close to the sleeping areas in residential homes and other dwelling units can help avoid fatalities.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that Congress should promote the installation of carbon monoxide alarms in residential homes and dwelling units across the United States in order to promote the health and public safety of citizens throughout the United States.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM.—The term “carbon monoxide alarm” means a device or system that—

(A) detects carbon monoxide; and

(B) is intended to sound an alarm at a carbon monoxide concentration below a concentration that could cause a loss of the ability to react to the dangers of carbon monoxide exposure.

(2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

(3) COMPLIANT CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM.—The term “compliant carbon monoxide alarm” means a carbon monoxide alarm that complies with the most current version of—

(A) the Standard for Single and Multiple Station Carbon Monoxide Alarms of the American National Standards Institute and UL (ANSI/UL 2034), or any successor standard; and

(B) the Standard for Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors of the American National Standards Institute and UL (ANSI/UL 2075), or any successor standard.

(4) DWELLING UNIT.—The term “dwelling unit”—

(A) means a room or suite of rooms used for human habitation; and

(B) includes—

(i) a single family residence;

(ii) each living unit of a multiple family residence, including an apartment building; and

(iii) each living unit in a mixed use building.

(5) FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS.—The term “fire code enforcement officials” means officials of the fire safety code enforcement agency of a State or local government or a Tribal organization.

(6) INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE.—The term “IFC” means—

(A) the 2015 or 2018 edition of the International Fire Code published by the International Code Council; or

(B) any amended or similar successor code pertaining to the proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

(7) INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE.—The term “IRC” means—

(A) the 2015 or 2018 edition of the International Residential Code published by the International Code Council; or

(B) any amended or similar successor code pertaining to the proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

(8) NFPA 720.—The term “NFPA 720” means—

(A) the Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide Detection and Warning Equipment issued by the National Fire Protection Association in 2012; and

(B) any amended or similar successor standard relating to the proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

(9) STATE.—The term “State”—

(A) has the meaning given the term in section 3(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052(a)); and

(B) includes—

(i) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

(ii) any political subdivision of a State.

(10) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term “Tribal organization” has the meaning given the term in section 4(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304(l)).

SEC. 4. GRANT PROGRAM FOR CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations authorized under subsection (f), the Commission shall establish a grant program to provide assistance to States and Tribal organizations that are eligible under subsection (b) to carry out the carbon monoxide poisoning prevention activities described in subsection (e).

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—For the purposes of this section, an eligible State or Tribal organization is any State or Tribal organization that—

(1) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Commission that the State or Tribal organization has adopted a statute or a rule, regulation, or similar measure with the force and effect of law, requiring compliant carbon monoxide alarms to be installed in dwelling units in accordance with NFPA 72, the IFC, or the IRC; and

(2) submits an application—

(A) to the Commission at such time, in such form, and containing such additional information as the Commission may require; and

(B) that may be filed on behalf of the State or Tribal organization by the fire safety code enforcement agency of that State or Tribal organization.

(c) GRANT AMOUNT.—The Commission shall determine the amount of each grant awarded under this section.

(d) SELECTION OF GRANT RECIPIENTS.—In selecting eligible States and Tribal organizations for the award of grants under this section, the Commission shall give favorable consideration to an eligible State or Tribal organization that demonstrates a reasonable need for funding under this section and that—

(1) requires the installation of a one or more compliant carbon monoxide alarms in a new or existing educational facility, childcare facility, health care facility, adult dependent care facility, government building, restaurant, theater, lodging establishment, or dwelling unit—

(A) within which a fuel-burning appliance, including a furnace, boiler, water heater, fireplace, or any other apparatus, appliance, or device that burns fuel, is installed; or

(B) that has an attached garage; and

(2) has developed a strategy to protect vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, or low-income households, from exposure to unhealthy levels of carbon monoxide.

(e) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), an eligible State or Tribal organization to which a grant is awarded under this section may use the grant—

(A) to purchase and install compliant carbon monoxide alarms in the dwelling units of low-income families or elderly individuals, facilities that commonly serve children or the elderly (including childcare facilities, public schools, and senior centers);

(B) for the development and dissemination of training materials, instructors, and any other costs relating to the training sessions authorized under this subsection; or

(C) to educate the public about—

(i) the risk associated with carbon monoxide as a poison; and

(ii) the importance of proper carbon monoxide alarm use.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—An eligible State or Tribal organization to which a grant is awarded under this section may use not more than 5 percent of the grant amount to cover administrative costs that are not directly related to training described in paragraph (1)(B).

(B) PUBLIC OUTREACH.—An eligible State or Tribal organization to which a grant is awarded under this section may use not more than 25 percent of the grant amount to cover the costs of activities described in paragraph (1)(D).

(C) STATE CONTRIBUTIONS.—An eligible State to which a grant is awarded under this section shall, with respect to the costs incurred by the State in carrying out activities under the grant, provide non-Federal contributions in an amount equal to not less than 25 percent of amount of Federal funds provided under the grant to administer the program. This subparagraph shall not apply to Tribal organizations.

(f) FUNDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall carry out this Act using amounts appropriated to the Commission for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025, to extent such funds are available.

(2) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—In a fiscal year, not more than 10 percent of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to carry out this Act may be used for administrative expenses.

(g) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the last day of each fiscal year in which grants are awarded under this section, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report that evaluates the implementation of the grant program required under this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1460.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1460, the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2021.

This important bipartisan bill was introduced again this Congress by Representatives ANN KUSTER and BUDDY CARTER.

Mr. Speaker, carbon monoxide—colorless, odorless, tasteless—is a silent killer. More than 400 people die, and approximately 50,000 people visit emergency rooms each year in the U.S. from carbon monoxide poisoning.

The tragedy is that these deaths and injuries are preventable with the installation of carbon monoxide detectors. However, many people are unaware of the importance of carbon monoxide detectors or don't know how to install or maintain them properly.

This bill will change that. It will assist States in educating the public on the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning and the proper use of carbon monoxide detectors. It will also provide States with grants so they can purchase and install carbon monoxide detectors in the homes of the elderly and low-income citizens, as well as in educational facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1460, the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2021.

I thank Representatives CARTER and KUSTER, two great members of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. I thank them for their work on this important piece of legislation and for the many years they have served and worked to protect consumers.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas produced by burning fuel, and most people know that. Exposure to unhealthy levels of carbon monoxide can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning, a serious health condition that could result in death, unfortunately.

Mr. Speaker, unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning from motor vehicles and the abnormal operation of fuel-burning appliances, such as furnaces, water heaters, portable generators, and stoves kills more than 400 people each year and sends more than 15,000 to hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

This legislation would protect Americans from an otherwise undetectable harm. This bipartisan bill represents a longstanding commitment of the Committee on Energy and Commerce to protect America's consumers, families, and children.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this particular bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER), who is the lead sponsor of the bill.

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, as a mother and aunt—and now a great aunt—to a dozen little

ones, I know there is nothing more important than keeping our children and loved ones safe. From a young age, we tell our children to wear their seatbelts in the car, a helmet while riding a bike or skiing, and to handle sharp objects with care. We go to great lengths to protect our children from the dangers we can see, but there are threats to our children's and loved ones' well-being that oftentimes go undetected.

Among the most dangerous of these is carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is a stealthy killer. You cannot see it, hear it, taste it, or smell it. This deadly gas claims the lives of over 400 Americans every year and results in over 20,000 emergency room visits.

Two of my constituents, John and April Courtney in Lyman, New Hampshire, tragically lost their lives to carbon monoxide poisoning just this past year. If people know about the dangers of carbon monoxide and have alarms properly installed in their homes, tragedies like the one in my district, can be prevented.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I am so proud to join my good friend, Representative CARTER, in introducing in the House, H.R. 1460, the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act that we will be voting on this evening.

This legislation provides funding for States to prevent future carbon monoxide-related deaths by educating the public about the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning and installing detectors in housing for the elderly and low-income individuals and high-traffic public buildings like schools. This bipartisan legislation will save lives.

At a time when Congress so often seems divided, this legislation is proof that we can work together to find common ground and get things done to help our constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CARTER, and I thank our chairman, and I encourage all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), my good friend.

Mr. Speaker, I really appreciate his perspective on the Committee on Energy and Commerce as the only pharmacist on the committee. I thank him for sponsoring this legislation.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1460. The bill, the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act is a piece of legislation that can save lives.

It would direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to award grants to install carbon monoxide alarms in buildings and facilities that house vulnerable members of the population.

According to the CDC, at least 430 people die in the United States from accidental CO poisoning every year. On top of that, nearly 50,000 people visit the ER every year because of acci-

dental CO poisoning. On a higher note, we can curb this statistic.

Better monitoring systems will ensure that people can prepare and protect themselves. This bipartisan legislation, which I was proud to cosponsor with my good friend, Representative KUSTER from New Hampshire, helps us move the needle on this important subject. Many of us have heard stories of families being impacted by this tragic and preventable outcome. Whether it is seniors or children, this bill can help save lives.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for her hard work on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this bill. It is a great bill, a good consumer protection bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1460.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

PROTECTING SENIORS FROM EMERGENCY SCAMS ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 446) to require the Federal Trade Commission to submit a report to Congress on scams targeting seniors, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 446

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act".

SEC. 2. FTC REPORT ON SCAMS TARGETING SENIORS DURING EMERGENCIES.

Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission (referred to in this Act as the "Commission") shall submit a report to Congress including—

(1) a description of the number and types of scams identified by the Commission as being targeted at senior citizens; and

(2) policy recommendations to prevent such scams, especially as such scams relate to future national emergencies.

SEC. 3. INCREASING AWARENESS OF SCAMS TARGETING SENIORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the

Commission shall update its web portal to include the latest information, searchable by region and type of scam, on scams targeting seniors, including contacts for relevant law enforcement and adult protective service agencies.

(b) COORDINATION WITH MEDIA OUTLETS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT.—The Commission shall work with media outlets and law enforcement to distribute the information included in the web portal of the Commission pursuant to subsection (a) to senior citizens and their families and caregivers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 446.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 446, the Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act. Representatives KELLY and BALDERSON introduced this bipartisan legislation to further efforts by the FTC to stop fraud targeting seniors.

This bill streamlines efforts to protect seniors from falling prey to scams during national emergencies, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, by establishing a searchable database of scams targeting seniors.

In the Committee on Energy and Commerce, we have held multiple hearings exploring the rise in fraud and scams that have come with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, scammers often take advantage of the fear and uncertainty that results from emergency situations. And since the beginning of the COVID pandemic, consumers have reported losing more than \$300 million in just pandemic-related fraud.

After Hurricane Sandy ravaged the East Coast, including my own district in New Jersey, scammers preyed on people who lost their homes and livelihoods. We saw contracting scammers promising to rebuild people's homes but who took the money and ran. One man was in prison for using fake titles to sell Sandy-damaged cars.

Unfortunately, older Americans are targeted disproportionately and affected by this fraud. Older Americans reported significantly bigger monetary losses from fraud than younger adults.

According to a recent FTC report, phone scams result in the highest reported losses by older adults, particularly adults over 80. Phone-based scams can be especially problematic in emergency situations like the pandemic when people are spending more time at home and seniors may be more isolated.

Representatives KELLY and BALDERSON's bill will help address these scams. It directs the FTC to issue a report on fraud targeting seniors during the pandemic and how to improve efforts against senior scams during future emergencies.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1345

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 446, the Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act. I would like to thank Representative ROBIN KELLY of the Energy and Commerce Committee for her bipartisan work with Representative TROY BALDERSON to protect our constituents.

The COVID-19 pandemic has turned the lives of millions of Americans upside down, unfortunately. We were all forced to isolate, sometimes even away from our families and friends, to stay safe. Unfortunately, it is during these times when bad actors aim to exploit the most vulnerable. Promising fake lifesaving medication and stimulus checks, scammers will stop at nothing to take advantage of others.

H.R. 446 would protect Americans, especially seniors, from malicious and deceptive scams by augmenting the tools included in other recently enacted legislation. As they have worked on legislation to fight scammers, I have supported my colleagues' efforts to incorporate provisions that encourage cooperation with law enforcement. I am pleased to see such efforts continue in this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, of course, I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY), the lead sponsor of the bill who has worked so hard, particularly during the pandemic, to address disparities in healthcare.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the past year has been tough for many of us but especially difficult for seniors. Many have lost friends and loved ones from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Increased isolation and dependence on digital resources have put extra burdens on millions of Americans.

From frantic calls of, "Grandma, I am in the hospital sick with COVID. Please wire money right away," to calls from supposed Good Samaritans offering to run errands and then pocketing the money, scammers are using the pandemic to take advantage of vulnerable populations. They are preying on fear and uncertainty to steal money and personal information or sell fraudulent services or products.

One of the best ways to protect seniors from falling victim to scams is to supply them with the information they need. That is why H.R. 446 requires the

FTC to report on the number and type of scams that target older adults. It also will have the Commission's web portal updated with current information about such scams and coordination with media outlets and law enforcement to disseminate scam information. Seniors need to know what scams are happening in their areas so they can protect themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative BALDERSON for joining me in leading this legislation and Chairman PALLONE for his support in advancing legislation to protect our seniors.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON), the cosponsor of the legislation.

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 446, legislation aimed that at protecting older Americans from falling victim to scammers.

Throughout the pandemic, uncertainty has led to many Americans falling victim to scam callers, especially vulnerable populations like seniors. We have a responsibility to stop bad actors like these scam artists in their tracks. That starts with empowering the American people with information to better protect themselves and their loved ones from falling victim.

H.R. 446 would direct the Federal Trade Commission to identify scammers and make such information publicly available. This legislation also equips the FTC to more proactively alert the public about known scams, specifically in their region.

Mr. Speaker, our seniors have suffered enough. It is time to better supply them and their loved ones with the information needed to protect themselves against scammers who shamelessly prey on the most vulnerable. That is why I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 446, the Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote for it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 446.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

PROTECTING INDIAN TRIBES FROM SCAMS ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1762) to direct the Federal Trade Commission to submit to Congress a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1762

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting Indian Tribes from Scams Act".

SEC. 2. PROTECTING INDIAN TRIBES FROM UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.

(a) FTC REPORT ON UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES TARGETING INDIAN TRIBES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and after consultation with Indian Tribes, the Commission shall make publicly available on the website of the Commission and submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes, including—

(1) a description of the types of unfair or deceptive acts or practices identified by the Commission as being targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes;

(2) a description of the consumer education activities of the Commission with respect to such acts or practices;

(3) a description of the efforts of the Commission to collaborate with Indian Tribes to prevent such acts or practices or to pursue persons using such acts or practices;

(4) a summary of the enforcement actions taken by the Commission related to such acts or practices; and

(5) any recommendations for legislation to prevent such acts or practices.

(b) INCREASING AWARENESS OF UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES TARGETING INDIAN TRIBES.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the submission of the report required by subsection (a), the Commission shall update the website of the Commission to include information for consumers and businesses on identifying and avoiding unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes.

(c) COMMISSION DEFINED.—In this section, the term "Commission" means the Federal Trade Commission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1762.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1762, the Protecting Indian Tribes from Scams Act. The often-overlooked area in Federal fraud prevention efforts is scams targeting Indian Tribes and Tribal members. The scope and scale of scams affecting Indian Tribes have not been well documented, hindering efforts to prevent them.

This bipartisan bill, reintroduced this Congress by Representatives MULLIN and O'HALLERAN, will help get the needed information about fraud and scams targeting Tribes and members of Tribes. This bill directs the FTC to consult with Indian Tribes about these scams and then issue a report to Congress that will be made public. It also requires the FTC to update its website to include information on these scams.

Mr. Speaker, as this pandemic continues, scammers are taking advantage of people's fear and uncertainty to steal people's money and commit fraud. American Indians are not exempt from these unfair and deceptive practices and may even be specifically targeted with certain kinds of scams. But there is not much information about it.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representatives MULLIN and O'HALLERAN for introducing this bill, an important step in helping prevent fraud and scams targeting Tribes and members of Tribes. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1762, the Protecting Indian Tribes from Scams Act. I want to thank Representative MULLIN and Representative O'HALLERAN for their work on this particular issue. This bipartisan piece of legislation will help our Native nations.

One area that can be overlooked in Federal fraud prevention efforts, Mr. Speaker, is scams targeting Indian Tribal members. The scope and scale of scams that target Indian Tribes have not been well documented, hindering efforts to prevent them.

This legislation would direct the FTC, the Federal Trade Commission, to submit to Congress a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeting Indian Tribes.

Simply put, these scammers ruin lives, unfortunately. To address these scams properly, we must educate all Americans on how to avoid malicious scammers.

This legislation passed the House last Congress, and I am hopeful we can again pass it today and get this legislation to become law as soon as possible. I can't think of a better person to sponsor this than my good friend, Mr. MULLIN.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the

gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN).

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in full support of my bill, H.R. 1762, the Protecting Indian Tribes from Scams Act. The bill will help protect our Tribes and Tribal members from predatory scams.

Tribal communities have long been targets of fraud. Scammers often target vulnerable communities who receive trust or settlement payments, like many Tribes do. FTC data says that Tribe members are more likely to be the victims of scams and are less likely to report scams than any other group.

H.R. 1762 will direct the FTC to study the types of scams that target Tribes and find the best ways to combat them.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Arizona for working with me on these issues, as well as many other issues important to Indian Country. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1762.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

FTC COLLABORATION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1766) to enhance cooperation between the Federal Trade Commission and State Attorneys General to combat unfair and deceptive practices, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1766

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "FTC Collaboration Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE PRACTICES CO-OPERATION STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission shall conduct a study on facilitating and refining existing efforts with State Attorneys General to prevent, publicize, and penalize frauds and

scams being perpetrated on individuals in the United States.

(2) REQUIREMENTS OF STUDY.—In conducting the study, the Commission shall examine the following:

(A) The roles and responsibilities of the Commission and State Attorneys General that best advance collaboration and consumer protection.

(B) The policies, procedures, and mechanisms that facilitate cooperation and communications across the Commission.

(C) How resources should be dedicated to best advance such collaboration and consumer protection.

(D) The accountability mechanisms that should be implemented to promote collaboration and consumer protection.

(3) CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT.—In producing the study required in paragraph (1), the Commission shall—

(A) consult with—

(i) the National Association of State Attorneys General;

(ii) public interest organizations dedicated to consumer protection;

(iii) relevant private sector entities; and

(iv) any other Federal or State agency that the Federal Trade Commission considers necessary; and

(B) provide opportunity for public comment and advice relevant to the production of the study.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required pursuant to subsection (a), the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Commission, a report that contains the following:

(1) The results of the study.

(2) Recommended best practices to enhance collaboration efforts between the Commission and State Attorneys General with respect to preventing, publicizing, and penalizing fraud and scams.

(3) Quantifiable metrics by which enhanced collaboration can be measured.

(4) Legislative recommendations, if any, to enhance collaboration efforts between the Commission and State Attorneys General to prevent, publicize, and penalize fraud and scams.

(c) COMMISSION DEFINED.—In this section, the term "Commission" means the Federal Trade Commission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1766.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1766, the FTC Collaboration Act of 2021. This bipartisan bill was introduced again this year by Representatives O'HALLERAN and HUDSON.

The bill will help reinforce the important relationship between the FTC and State attorneys general.

Our State attorneys general play a critical role in enforcing and complementing Federal consumer protection laws. The FTC is a relatively small law enforcement agency charged with protecting consumers across the country. By partnering with State attorneys general, the reach of Federal consumer protection efforts is expanded. Stronger enforcement actions can be taken against unscrupulous companies and those engaging in unfair and deceptive practices hurting consumers.

When Americans are harmed by fraud and scams, they often turn to their State attorneys general for help, but these scammers may be targeting people across the country. By working together, State AGs and the FTC can pool their resources and protect consumers across the country.

This bill will help the FTC optimize its collaboration with State attorneys general by studying the matter and issuing a report on how to further promote collaboration.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1400

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1766, the FTC Collaboration Act.

As bad actors and scammers continue their efforts to take advantage of American consumers, we must not back down when it comes to ensuring the safety of our constituents and authenticity of consumer products. The FTC Collaboration Act directs the Federal Trade Commission to examine how it can work better with State attorneys general to prevent, publicize, and penalize scams in the United States.

This legislation would require the FTC to submit a report to Congress on how to enhance collaboration with State law enforcement. I remain confident this can help in other agenda items we can work together on in this particular session. It is so important that we work together with our colleagues on the State level.

I am proud of the important steps this bill takes to keep consumers safe and, importantly, prioritize our most vulnerable during COVID-19.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers. In closing, I ask my colleagues to support this very important bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. PIN-GRÉE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1766.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DEBARMENT ENFORCEMENT OF BAD ACTOR REGISTRANTS ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1002) to amend the Controlled Substances Act to authorize the debarment of certain registrants, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1002

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2021” or the “DEBAR Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. DEBARMENT OF CERTAIN REGISTRANTS.

Section 304 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 824) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) The Attorney General may issue an order to prohibit, conditionally or unconditionally, and permanently or for such period as the Attorney General may determine, any person from being registered under this title to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance or a list I chemical, if the Attorney General finds that—

“(1) such person meets or has met any of the conditions for suspension or revocation of registration under subsection (a); and

“(2) such person has a history of prior suspensions or revocations of registration.”.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1002.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1002, the Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2021, or the DEBAR Act of 2021.

One of the critical missions of the Drug Enforcement Administration is enforcing and implementing the Controlled Substances Act in order to prevent drug diversion and limit access to substances that may pose a risk if used incorrectly.

One important lever the DEA has at its disposal to manage diversion or noncompliance with the law is the ability to revoke or surrender an individual’s controlled substance registration, which is needed to handle controlled substances.

A recent report by the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General found weaknesses in the DEA’s current registration processes and instances where the agency did not fully utilize its regulatory authorities to address noncompliance. Specifically, the inspector general found cases where entities whose registration were revoked were later able to obtain a new license.

For example, the report included one case where a doctor who had their registration revoked for serious misconduct then moved to another State under the authority of a different DEA field division and was granted a controlled substances registration after reapplying.

Another example in the report included a dentist who had voluntarily surrendered his medical license and DEA registration on two separate occasions. The dentist had also been convicted of a felony, which is grounds for suspension or revocation of an individual’s registration under the Controlled Substances Act. However, this dentist was still able to obtain another DEA registration.

Amid rising substance abuse and tragic drug overdoses, errors like these can be tragic and simply should not be happening. H.R. 1002 would address these errors by authorizing the debarment of any registrant who either meets the criteria for temporary or permanent suspension or revocation or has a history of prior suspensions or revocations.

I thank my committee colleagues—Representative LATTI, in particular—for leading this legislation, and also Ranking Member RODGERS for her work on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1002, the Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants, or the DEBAR Act, which was introduced by my very good friend, Mr. LATTI.

This provision would give the Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA, debarment authority to prohibit a person who has repeatedly violated the Controlled Substances Act from receiving a registration to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance.

It makes a lot of sense. A recent Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General report found that when

certain bad actor registrants have their registration revoked, they can re-apply for registration the very next day. Registrants who pose a significant risk of diverting drugs could be given the opportunity to do so once again.

We have to stop this. That is why this legislation is so vital.

Repeat offenders should not be allowed to get a new registration from the DEA just days after their previous registration was revoked because they broke the law. Limited debarment authority is a commonsense and effective administrative tool to address diversion, fraud, and misconduct.

I strongly support this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my good friend from Florida for yielding. I also thank the chairman of the committee for bringing this bill before us today on the floor.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1002, the Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2021, or the DEBAR Act.

In the 116th Congress, we worked vigorously to tackle the coronavirus and address the needs of those who were suffering. One of the hardest issues facing Americans during this time was substance abuse, which, on average, takes nearly 130 lives each day in our Nation.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that more than 88,000 drug overdoses occurred in a 1-year period ending in August of 2020, making it the deadliest year for U.S. overdoses.

In Ohio alone, opioid overdoses reached record levels, rising 16 percent in the second quarter of 2020. Prior to the pandemic, these rates were, thankfully, declining over a 24-month period.

We need to act immediately to put an end to this crisis. The DEBAR Act provides the Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA, debarment authority to permanently prohibit a person or entity that has violated the Controlled Substances Act from being able to receive a registration to manufacture, distribute or dispense a controlled substance.

This legislation would also close loopholes and reduce the circulation of illegal substances across our Nation and keep bad actors from reapplying for new licenses once revoked. There is no silver bullet when it comes to fighting the opioid epidemic; however, the DEBAR Act will help address what is needed to combat this crisis, save lives, and stop bad actors from contributing to addiction.

Again, I thank the chairman, my friend from New Jersey, for bringing the bill to the floor. I also thank our ranking member from Washington for her help on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this good bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1002, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

ENSURING COMPLIANCE AGAINST DRUG DIVERSION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1899) to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for the modification, transfer, and termination of a registration to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1899

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Ensuring Compliance Against Drug Diversion Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION, TRANSFER, AND TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION TO MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTE, OR DISPENSE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

Subsection (a) of section 302 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 822) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the registration of any registrant under this title to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals terminates if and when such registrant—

“(i) dies;

“(ii) ceases legal existence;

“(iii) discontinues business or professional practice; or

“(iv) surrenders such registration.

“(B) In the case of such a registrant who ceases legal existence or discontinues business or professional practice, such registrant shall promptly notify the Attorney General in writing of such fact.

“(C) No registration under this title to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals, and no authority conferred thereby, may be assigned or otherwise transferred except upon such conditions as the Attorney General may specify and then only pursuant to written consent. A registrant to whom a registration is assigned or transferred pursuant to the preceding sentence may not manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals pursuant to such

registration until the Attorney General receives such written consent.

“(D) In the case of a registrant under this title to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals desiring to discontinue business or professional practice altogether or with respect to controlled substances and list I chemicals (without assigning or transferring such business or professional practice to another entity), such registrant shall return to the Attorney General for cancellation—

“(i) the registrant’s certificate of registration;

“(ii) any unexecuted order forms in the registrant’s possession; and

“(iii) any other documentation that the Attorney General may require.”.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1899.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1899, the Ensuring Compliance Against Drug Diversion Act.

The Drug Enforcement Administration is charged with regulating controlled substances and manages access to these substances through a registration system. This system is meant to identify entities that manufacture, distribute, and dispense controlled substances, such as opioids; as well as to prevent diversion of these substances. We rely on the DEA to maintain the integrity of this system as one way to stop illicit diversion before it starts.

However, a 2018 Government Accountability Office report found over 700 registrants in the DEA’s system may have been ineligible for registration under the Controlled Substances Act. In fact, the GAO found that some of these registrants were reportedly deceased, did not possess State-level authority, or were incarcerated for offenses related to controlled substances.

If we are to curb rising substance abuse in the U.S., we must ensure, Madam Speaker, that bad actors are prevented from having access to these substances. The legislation we are considering today would terminate the

controlled substance registration of any registrant if the registrant dies, ceases legal existence, discontinues business or professional practice, or surrenders their registration. This bill also codifies DEA authority to ensure accuracy of registrations and limit the transfer of such registrations.

I thank the lead sponsor of this bill, Representative GRIFFITH, for his leadership on this issue.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this legislation, which was introduced by Representative GRIFFITH.

In order to prevent people who have not been vetted by authorities in dispensing controlled substances, this bill would clarify that the transfer of any controlled substance registration without written consent from the Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA, is prohibited.

A 2018 Energy and Commerce Committee report, which summarized the committee's bipartisan investigation into the distribution of prescription opioids by wholesale drug distributors, and the DEA's subsequent enforcement practices found that an opioid distributor and its pharmacy customer did not go through the appropriate process of transferring a registration to a new pharmacy owner.

Failing to contact the DEA appropriately and to verify whether the agency approved the transfer of a registration to dispense controlled substances creates a serious risk that could lead to drug diversion.

Madam Speaker, of course, I urge a "yes" vote on this.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH).

□ 1415

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1899, the Ensuring Compliance Against Drug Diversion Act. This is a small but very important step that could play a key role in helping contain the opioid epidemic.

License to distribute opioids is not a commodity to be freely bought and sold. We must ensure that those who wish to engage in opioid distribution earn the ability to do so.

An investigation, as the Speaker has heard, published by the Energy and Commerce Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee in 2018 found that the current procedures for transferring the licenses to distribute controlled substances lacked sufficient accountability.

In one instance, a distributor and its pharmacy customer did not go through the appropriate process of transferring registration to a new pharmacy owner, but the mistake wasn't caught until long, long afterward. As a result, there

was a period of time during which the DEA was unaware that a particular pharmacy was distributing controlled substances.

Failing to properly verify whether a transfer has been approved creates a serious risk of drug diversion. This bill amends the Controlled Substances Act to prohibit the transfer of any DEA registration without consent from the agency.

By requiring written approval from the DEA before the transfer of registration, we decrease the risk of controlled substances falling into the hands of those who have not been vetted by appropriate regulatory authorities.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this very good bill. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1899.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

MICROLOAN IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1502) to amend the Small Business Act to optimize the operations of the microloan program, lower costs for small business concerns and intermediary participants in the program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1502

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Microloan Improvement Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. INTEREST RATE FOR CERTAIN INTERMEDIARIES.

Section 7(m)(3)(F)(iii) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(3)(F)(iii)) is amended by striking "\$7,500" and inserting "\$10,000".

SEC. 3. LINES OF CREDIT AUTHORIZED.

Section 7(m)(6)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(6)(A)) is amended by inserting "(including lines of credit)" after "fixed rate loans".

SEC. 4. EXTENDED REPAYMENT TERMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(m)(6) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(6)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(F) REPAYMENT TERMS.—

"(1) LIMITATION ON REPAYMENTS TERM.—The repayment term for a loan made under this paragraph shall not be more than—

"(I) in the case of a loan made by an intermediary of \$10,000 or less, 7 years; and

"(II) in the case of a loan made by an intermediary of greater than \$10,000, 10 years.

"(ii) NO ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Administrator may not impose any additional limitation on the term for repayment of a loan made by an intermediary under this paragraph."

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 329(c) of the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 2042 15 U.S.C. 636 note) is repealed.

SEC. 5. PROGRAM FUNDING FOR MICROLOANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7)(B)—

(A) by amending clause (i) to read as follows:

"(i) ALLOCATION.—Subject to the availability of appropriations and for the first 2 quarters of a fiscal year, of the total amount of new loan funds made available for award under this subsection in such fiscal year, the Administrator shall—

"(I) reserve 15 percent of such funds for award to designated underutilized States; and

"(II) make the remaining 85 percent of such funds available for award in any State."; and

(B) in clause (ii), by striking "to carry out" and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: "under clause (i)(I) remains unexpended, the Administrator may make that portion available for award in any State or designated underutilized State."; and

(2) in paragraph (11)—

(A) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking "and" at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(E) the term 'State' means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa."

(b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue regulations to define the term "designated underutilized State", as used in section 7(m)(7)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(7)(B)), as added by this section.

SEC. 6. CREDIT REPORTING INFORMATION.

The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue rules establishing a process under which an intermediary that makes a loan to a borrower under section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)) shall be required to provide the major credit reporting agencies with information about the borrower relevant to credit reporting, such as the borrower's payment activity on the loan.

SEC. 7. REPORT REGARDING EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.

Section 7(m)(8) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(8)) is amended—

(1) by striking "In approving" and inserting the following:

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In approving"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Administrator shall include in the report submitted under paragraph (10), and make publicly available on the website of the Administration, information on how the Administration has met the requirements of subparagraph (A)."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 1502, the Microloan Improvement Act of 2021.

Today, we are considering four bipartisan bills that were approved by the Small Business Committee and the full House of Representatives last year. I am proud of the committee's work on behalf of small businesses and pleased that we worked together to get things done. Our small businesses deserve nothing less.

I would like to thank the chairwoman, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, for giving me the opportunity to manage time today on these four important small business bills.

I would also like to thank the ranking member, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, who will be handling the floor proceedings today with me.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access, under the leadership of Mr. KIM, held a hearing on the microloan program, where we heard from a panel of intermediaries who reported that many of the program's rules, largely unchanged since 1991, are outdated and restrict them from meeting today's demand for startup financing and providing more technical assistance.

In response, Mr. KIM crafted the Microloan Improvement Act of 2020, a series of proposals designed to update the program's rules and, ultimately, help microloan intermediaries extend more affordable capital to first-time entrepreneurs.

I was proud to support the Microloan Improvement Act last Congress and was pleased to see some of its provisions become law as part of the Economic Aid Act last December.

Today's bill, the Microloan Improvement Act of 2021, is virtually the same as last Congress' version without the policies we have already enacted into law.

Madam Speaker, we have heard time and again many entrepreneurs lack the experience needed to demonstrate their creditworthiness to conventional lenders. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted these gaps in financing, showing the smallest of small businesses, especially those owned by women and minorities, struggle the most to afford access to capital.

The microloan program is uniquely suited to address this problem, and today's bill strengthens the program and is long overdue.

I encourage my colleagues to support the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 1502, the Microloan Improvement Act of 2021.

Before I begin, I would like to thank the chairwoman for working in a bipartisan manner on behalf of our Nation's small businesses.

The bills before us today were developed in the 116th Congress and have been updated and reintroduced in this Congress. They focus on the Small Business Administration's existing government guaranteed loan programs. These programs are important resources and tools for the Nation's smallest businesses as they seek out financing.

Now, more than ever, these programs need to be ready for small businesses as they begin and continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. As ranking member of the Committee on Small Business, I want to make sure we focus, or continue to focus on these programs that assist the Nation's small businesses, entrepreneurs, and start-ups.

The first bill is the Microloan Improvement Act. This legislation enhances and expands SBA's microloan program which provides loans of \$50,000 or less. This program, which is delivered to small businesses through a partnership with microloan intermediaries, concentrates on low-dollar loans and technical assistance.

When a small business is starting out, counseling and capital assistance are true drivers of continued and prolonged success. H.R. 1502 further enhances the program for micro-borrowers by expanding the repayment terms of the program and providing additional tools in their toolbox.

Additionally, the bill removes the burdensome 1/55th rule that delays dollars from flowing to microloan intermediaries within the first two fiscal quarters of the year and replaces it with an allocation mechanism that will provide more equitable access to all States across the Nation.

I would like to thank Mr. KIM, Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. NEWMAN, and Mr. BURCHETT for concentrating their efforts on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1502, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. NEWMAN).

Ms. NEWMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today, excitedly, on behalf of the millions of small businesses across our Nation that are truly suffering from the pandemic and struggling to keep

their doors open because support is simply not reaching them.

As a former small business owner, I know firsthand how loans can make an absolutely life-changing difference for an entrepreneur.

However, the reality is that too many small businesses, especially those led by women, or minorities, or those in rural communities, don't have access to the primary lending programs offered by the Small Business Administration or private sector.

Microloans are designed to help start-ups and new small businesses that don't have banking relationships with access to larger capital. But for too many businesses, these microloans have been unreachable.

That is why I am proud to co-lead the Microloan Improvement Act to ensure that, regardless of background or location, every business has equitable access to capital.

With this legislation, we are expanding the number of community-based lenders eligible for the lowest interest rates on loans. That means these lenders can offer lines of credit to more small businesses.

Now more than ever, we have an obligation to remove barriers that prevent small businesses from receiving microloans. With this legislation, we are cutting bureaucratic red tape that has restricted growth and job creation.

From mom-and-pop shops, to family-owned stores, to every small business, they will all benefit. That is why this legislation is supported by Democrats and Republicans, and I am so glad to partner today with my Republican colleagues. I am happy to work in a bipartisan fashion to help our intermediaries provide assistance to our local entrepreneurs.

Let's pass this legislation so we can support the smallest of the small businesses in all of our communities.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), who has been a leader in small business issues.

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

I rise in support of Representative KIM's Microloan Improvement Act. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this important legislation.

Access to financial capital is essential to the success of America's small businesses and their entrepreneurs. This bipartisan bill is straightforward and effective. It increases the number of nonprofit community-based lenders that can offer loans through the SBA's microloan program.

Representative KIM's bill works in tandem with the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act, my small business legislation that we will debate shortly, to expand access to financial resources that will help our aspiring small business owners and entrepreneurs chase down the American Dream.

I encourage my colleagues to support this important bipartisan legislation.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, 2020 was a difficult year for small businesses. The COVID-19 pandemic hit small businesses hard. This is especially true for small businesses that were just starting out.

As our country continues to recover, the SBA's programs and resources must be ready to assist the Nation's job creators along the way.

The microloan program is a key tool for many small business owners. The reforms in H.R. 1502 are commonsense improvements that will continue to provide assistance and resources to America's Main Street businesses.

Madam Speaker, I urge and recommend my colleagues to support H.R. 1502, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1430

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

As the small business economy starts to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, entrepreneurs will need as many affordable capital options as possible. That is why the Economic Aid Act included PPP updates, grants for hard-hit venues, and other enhancements to SBA's business loan programs, including the microloan program.

Today's bill takes the next step after that relief effort toward fully modernizing and optimizing SBA's microloan program. For nearly 30 years, this program has had a strong track record of success and has helped to launch many successful small businesses, especially those owned by women and minority entrepreneurs. The record is full of success stories as the program has grown from a simple pilot program to a vital lending tool with strong stakeholder and congressional support.

The legislation before us today renews our commitment to startups by easing access to the program for even more aspiring entrepreneurs and making the program nimbler for intermediaries and borrowers alike.

Passing this bill will be another step to help lead our Nation out of this pandemic and build back the economy by embracing America's entrepreneurial spirit.

I applaud the work by Mr. KIM and Mr. GARBARINO for their bipartisan work on the microloan program. I encourage all of my colleagues to vote "yes," and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1502.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

MICROLOAN TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2021

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1487) to amend the Small Business Act to increase transparency, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1487

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. PORTFOLIO RISK ANALYSIS OF MICROLOANS.

Section 7(m)(10) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(10)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (F) as clauses (i) through (vi), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(2) by amending clause (iv), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(vi) the number, amount, and percentage of microloans made by intermediaries to small business concerns—

"(I) that went into default in the previous year; and

"(II) that were charged off in the previous year by such intermediaries;"

(3) in clause (vi), as so redesignated, by striking "and" at the end;

(4) by redesignating subparagraph (G) as clause (viii), and adjusting the margin accordingly;

(5) by striking "On November 1, 1995," and all that follows through "the following:" and inserting the following:

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on February 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives, and make available to the public on the website of the Administration, a report on the effectiveness of the microloan program during the fiscal year preceding the date of the report. Such report shall include—"

(6) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, by inserting after clause (vi) the following new clauses:

"(vii) the number and type of enforcement actions taken by the Administrator against noncompliant intermediaries;

"(viii) an analysis of compliance by intermediaries with the credit availability requirements of paragraph (3)(E) for loans in an amount greater than \$20,000;

"(ix) the extent to which microloans are provided to small business concerns in rural areas;

"(x) the number of underserved borrowers, as defined by the Administration, participating in the microloan program;

"(xi) the average rate of interest for each microloan;

"(xii) the average amount of fees charged for each microloan;

"(xiii) the average size of each microloan, including—

"(I) the number of loans made in an amount greater than \$20,000; and

"(II) the average size and charge-off rate of such loans;

"(xiv) the subsidy cost to the Administration;

"(xv) the number and percentage of microloans that were made to refinance other loans;

"(xvi) the number and percentage of microloans made to new program participants and the number and percentage of microloans made to previous program participants;

"(xvii) the average amount of technical assistance grant monies spent on each loan; and"; and

(7) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) PRIVACY.—Each report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall not contain any personally identifiable information of any borrower."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 1487, the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act, which will improve SBA's data reporting with respect to the microloan program.

Specifically, the bill would have SBA and microlenders report on the number, amount, and percentage of microloans that went into default in the previous year; the extent to which microloans are provided to small businesses in rural areas; and the average size, interest rate, and amount of fees charged for each microloan.

These metrics will help Congress and the public better evaluate the program and its impact on underserved communities and make improvements as needed.

This program is vital in helping women and minorities obtain much-needed capital. In fiscal year 2020, 47 percent of microloans were made to women-owned small businesses, and more than 51 percent of microloans were made to minority-owned small businesses.

This language was approved unanimously last Congress by both the Small Business Committee and the full House, and I look forward to a similar vote here today.

The version of the bill from last Congress also included a provision that would increase the amount of technical assistance grant funding a rural-serving microlender would receive. I am

pleased that language was included as part of the Economic Aid Act and is now law.

However, our work on the microloan program is not done. H.R. 1487 continues the work to keep strengthening the program, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support it.

I applaud the bipartisanship shown by the sponsors of these bills, especially the leads, Mr. BURCHETT and Mr. KIM.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote “yes.”

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1487, the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act of 2021.

I thank the chair for moving these bills quickly to the House floor. I also want to commend the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD), the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KIM), and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. NEWMAN) for working diligently and in a bipartisan fashion on behalf of America’s small businesses.

It is important to note that once Congress creates a Federal Government program, tool, or resource, the work is not done. Members of Congress must examine and determine the effectiveness and efficiency of the programs in practice to ensure that they are meeting congressional intent.

H.R. 1487 does just this for the microloan program, which delivers capital assistance and counseling to our Nation’s smallest businesses. Oftentimes, businesses that are just starting out and taking their first steps as a company are participants in the microloan program.

On an annual basis, the Small Business Administration will be required to report to Congress on the microloan program’s default rates, an analysis of credit requirements, the extent and reach of the program in rural areas, and so on.

H.R. 1487 will also increase transparency and provide Congress with tools to ensure it is working on behalf of small businesses across the Nation.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense and straightforward legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), a distinguished gentleman who has worked hard on a lot of small business issues.

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act is important bipartisan legislation that gives all entrepreneurs fair access to the Small Business Administration’s microloan program.

As a former small business owner, I know accessible financial resources are important for growth, innovation, and success. Working folks have to jump on the first horse that comes down the pike, as my dad used to say, or need to dip into personal savings, like I did. Wealthy folks have family assets. Inner cities and rural Appalachia don’t have those same opportunities, Madam Speaker. These are hardworking Americans just looking to get their foot in the door and to have a fair shot.

This legislation aims to boost rural small business participation in the SBA microloan program by requiring the Small Business Administration to submit to Congress a financial analysis of the microloan program. This ensures Federal microloans are targeted toward rural areas, not just large urban centers, and creates important oversight that reduces fraud and government waste.

These fixes will allow America’s entrepreneurs, regardless of background or location, to have easier access to capital that helps them reach their goals.

I am proud to partner with Representatives ANDY KIM, SCOTT FITZGERALD, and MARIE NEWMAN on this legislation that will make a difference for east Tennessee’s mom-and-pop shops and small businesses across our great country.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD), a huge supporter of small businesses and all their issues.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1487.

Unlike large businesses with access to debt and equity markets, small businesses rely on commercial banking to fund their operations. Should a credit-worthy small business be unable to obtain a conventional business loan, the Small Business Administration can help the small business by offering access to capital through the microloan program. The microloan program allows nonprofit intermediaries to make loans of up to \$50,000 to small businesses, along with technical assistance.

The program has grown from approving \$52 million in loans in 2015 to over \$80 million in 2019. Despite this growth, the SBA produces minimal statistics that are needed to evaluate a government guarantee loan program.

This commonsense legislation will require the SBA to produce an annual report detailing additional information about microloans that have defaulted and the number of loans provided to rural areas.

We owe it to Americans to conduct basic oversight to protect their taxpayer dollars while expanding opportunities for rural small businesses to grow and innovate.

I urge a “yes” vote on this bill to ensure small businesses hit hard by the pandemic have robust access to capital, regardless of their size and location.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

The microloan program, which delivers capital assistance to the Nation’s smallest businesses, is an important lending tool at the SBA. H.R. 1487, the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act of 2021, will deliver comprehensive data and information on the effectiveness of the program.

I applaud all of the Members working on this important legislation in an effort to shine more light on how well the program is working.

From my State of Missouri to both of the Nation’s coasts, accessing capital remains a top challenge facing all small businesses. Tools and resources like the microloan program can make a huge difference to small business owners in the early stages of their businesses. We must ensure these programs and tools are operating at a high level and delivering on the goals that Congress set for them. That is why this bill is so important.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1487, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

It is often said that information is power. H.R. 1487 will greatly increase the information publicly available about the microloan program’s performance and impact.

If we intend to continue to support the smallest of small businesses, we need to make sure the programs targeting them are operating at their best. That starts with improving the data and information available about where the loans are going, how affordable they are, and where the gaps in coverage are.

With more data, the public can assess the impact these loans have in our communities, and Congress will be able to monitor the program and identify areas for improvement.

I thank the gentlemen from Tennessee and New Jersey for their hard work and collaboration in bringing this bill to the floor today.

I urge my colleagues to vote “yes,” and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1487.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

504 MODERNIZATION AND SMALL MANUFACTURER ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2021

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1490) to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the loan guaranty program, enhance the ability of small manufacturers to access affordable capital, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1490

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. ADDITIONS TO POLICY GOALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PROGRAM.

Section 501(d)(3) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695(d)(3)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (L) as subparagraphs (B) through (M), respectively;

(2) by inserting before subparagraph (B) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(A) workforce development through work-based or work-integrated training, which shall be satisfied by demonstrating that a small business concern that is a subject of the project has—

“(i) a documented in-house training program, the duration of which is not shorter than 12 weeks; or

“(ii) entered into a contract with an entity—

“(I) to provide trained applicants for any open position of employment at the small business concern; and

“(II) that ensures that any applicant provided to the small business concern under subclause (I) has undergone not fewer than 12 weeks of training that is relevant to the open position described in that subclause.”;

(3) by amending subparagraph (D) (as so redesignated) to read as follows:

“(D) expansion of minority-owned, employee-owned, or women-owned business development.”;

(4) in subparagraph (L) (as so redesignated), by striking “producers, or” and inserting “producers.”;

(5) in subparagraph (M) (as so redesignated), by striking the period at the end and inserting a comma;

(6) by inserting after subparagraph (M) the following new subparagraphs:

“(N) enhanced ability for small business concerns to reduce costs by using energy efficient products and generating renewable energy,

“(O) aid revitalizing of any area for which a disaster has been declared or determined under subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (E) of section 7(b)(2) of the Small Business Act, or

“(P) expansion of small business concerns with 10 or fewer employees.”; and

(7) in the flush text following subparagraph (P), as added by paragraph (6), by striking “subparagraphs (J) and (K)” and inserting “subparagraphs (K) and (L)”.

SEC. 3. INCREASE IN LOAN AMOUNTS FOR MANUFACTURING LOANS.

Section 502 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 696) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “The Administration” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administration”;

and

(2) in subsection (a), as so designated—

(A) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “section” and inserting “subsection”;

(ii) in clause (iii), by striking “\$5,500,000” and inserting “\$6,500,000”; and

(B) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking “this section” and inserting “this subsection”.

SEC. 4. IMPROVEMENTS TO 504 LOAN CLOSING PROCEDURE.

Title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 502, as amended by section 3, by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(b) CLOSING.—

“(1) AUTHORITY OF CERTAIN DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES.—An accredited lender certified company may take any of the following actions to facilitate the closing of a loan made under subsection (a):

“(A) Reallocate the cost of the project with respect to which the loan is made in an amount that is not more than 10 percent of the overall cost of the project.

“(B) Correct any name that is applicable to the loan, including the name of any borrower, guarantor, eligible passive company described in subparagraph (C)(i), and operating company described in subparagraph (C)(ii).

“(C) Form any of the following to receive proceeds of the loan:

“(i) An eligible passive company that complies with section 120.111 of title 13, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

“(ii) If an eligible passive company is formed under clause (i), an operating company with respect to that eligible passive company.

“(D) Correct the address of any property with respect to which the loan is made.

“(E) Correct the name of any interim lender or third-party lender.

“(F) Change any third-party lender or interim lender if that lender is a financial institution that is regulated by the Federal Government or a State government.

“(G) Make a guarantor a co-borrower or a co-borrower a guarantor.

“(H) Add a guarantor that does not change ownership with respect to the loan.

“(I) Reduce the amount of standby debt before the closing as a result of regularly scheduled payments.

“(J) Reduce the cost of the project with respect to which the loan is made.

“(2) FEES.—The Administrator shall—

“(A) issue a rule regarding the amount of a closing fee that may be financed in a debenture that is issued by a certified development company to make one or more loans to small business concerns, the proceeds of which are used by that concern for the purposes described in subsection (a), except that such amount shall be not less than \$3,500; and

“(B) periodically update the rule issued under subparagraph (A).

“(3) NO ADVERSE CHANGE AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—Before the closing with respect to a loan made under subsection (a), the borrower and any operating company shall—

“(A) make the certification required under section 120.892 of title 13, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation; and

“(B) submit to the certified development company a financial statement that is not more than 180 days old, which the company shall certify not later than 120 days before the date on which the certified development company issues a debenture with respect to the project to which the loan relates.

“(c) ACCREDITED LENDER CERTIFIED COMPANY DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘accredited lender certified company’ means a certified development company that meets the requirements under section 507(b), including a certified development company that the Administration has designated as an accredited lender under such section 507(b).”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 511. CLOSING AND OVERSIGHT.

“(a) SBA DISTRICT COUNSELS.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this section, with respect to the program established under this title, district counsels of the Administration shall be subject to the same requirements, and shall have the same authority and responsibilities, as in effect with respect to that program on the day before the date of enactment of this section, except that—

“(1) the Office of Credit Risk Management of the Administration shall have the responsibility for all duties relating to conducting file reviews of loans made under this title; and

“(2) district counsels of the Administration shall not have any responsibility relating to the review of closing packages with respect to a loan made under this title.

“(b) DESIGNATED ATTORNEYS.—For the purposes of this title, the following provisions and requirements shall apply with respect to a designated attorney of a certified development company:

“(1) A designated attorney that meets the requirements determined under paragraph (2) shall be responsible for certifying documents relating to the closing of a loan described in this title.

“(2) The Administrator may determine any continuing education requirements that the designated attorney shall be required to satisfy in order to be permitted to close a loan made under this title.

“(3) If, as of the date of enactment of this section, a certified development company does not have a designated attorney, during the 270-day period beginning on that date of enactment, the certified development company may identify such an attorney, subject to the approval of the Administrator.”.

SEC. 5. CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LOANS FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS.

(a) CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT.—Section 502(a)(3)(C) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as designated by section 3, is amended—

(1) by redesignating clauses (i), (ii), (iii), and (iv) as subclauses (I), (II), (III), and (IV), respectively, and adjusting the margins of such subclauses accordingly;

(2) by inserting before subclause (I), as so redesignated, the following:

“(i) for a small business concern that is not a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(7))—”;

(3) in subclause (III), as so redesignated, by striking “clauses (i) and (ii)” and inserting “subclauses (I) and (II)”;

(4) in subclause (IV) as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”;

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) for a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(7))—

“(I) at least 5 percent of the total cost of the project financed, if the small business concern has been in operation for a period of 2 years or less;

“(II) at least 5 percent of the total cost of the project financed, if the project involves a limited or single purpose building or structure;

“(III) at least 10 percent of the total cost of the project financed if the project involves

both of the conditions set forth in subclauses (I) and (II); or

“(IV) at least 5 percent of the total cost of the project financed, in all other circumstances, at the discretion of the development company.”.

(b) **CREATION OR RETENTION OF JOBS REQUIREMENT.**—Section 501(e) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “creates or retains” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “creates or retains 1 job for every \$75,000 guaranteed by the Administration, except that the amount is \$150,000 in the case of a project of a small manufacturer.”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “creates or retains” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “creates or retains 1 job for every \$75,000 guaranteed by the Administration, except that the amount is \$150,000 in the case of a project of a small manufacturer.”;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

“(6) For a loan for a project directed toward the creation of job opportunities under subsection (d)(1), the Administrator shall publish on the website of the Administration the number of jobs created or retained under the project as of the date that is 2 years after the completion (as determined based on information provided by the development company) of the project.”.

(c) **COLLATERAL REQUIREMENTS.**—Section 502(a)(3)(E)(i) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as designated by section 3, is amended by adding at the end the following: “Additional collateral shall not be required in the case of a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(7)).”.

(d) **DEBT REFINANCING.**—Section 502(a)(7)(B) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as designated by section 3, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding clause (i) by inserting “(or in the case of a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(7)), that does not exceed 100 percent of the project cost of the expansion)” after “cost of the expansion”;

(2) in clause (v), by adding “and” at the end;

(3) by striking clause (vi); and

(4) by redesignating clause (vii) as clause (vi).

(e) **AMOUNT OF GUARANTEED DEBENTURE.**—Section 503(a) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) Any debenture issued by a State or local development company to a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(7)) with respect to which a guarantee is made under this subsection shall be in an amount equal to not more than 50 percent of the cost of the project with respect to which such debenture is issued, without regard to whether good cause has been shown.”.

SEC. 6. ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS.

Title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.), as amended by section 4(2), is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 512. ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator shall ensure that each district office of the Administration partners with not less than 1 resource partner to provide training to small business concerns assigned a North American Industry Classification System code for manufacturing on obtaining assistance under the program carried out under this title, in-

cluding with respect to the application process under that program and partnering with development companies under this title.

“(b) **RESOURCE PARTNER DEFINED.**—In this section, the term ‘resource partner’ means—

“(1) a small business development center (defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act);

“(2) a women’s business center (described under section 29 of such Act);

“(3) a chapter of the Service Corps of Retired Executives (established under section 8(b)(1)(B) of such Act); and

“(4) a Veteran Business Outreach Center (described under section 32 of such Act).”.

SEC. 7. LEASING RULES FOR NEW FACILITIES AND EXISTING BUILDINGS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 502(a) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as designated by section 3, is amended by striking paragraphs (4) and (5) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

“(4) **NEW FACILITIES.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—With respect to a project to construct a new facility, an assisted small business concern may permanently lease not more than 20 percent of the project if such concern—

“(i) permanently occupies and uses not less than 60 percent of the project;

“(ii) plans to occupy and use an additional portion of the project that is not permanently leased not later than 3 years after receipt of assistance under this section; and

“(iii) plans to permanently occupy and use 80 percent of the project not later than 10 years after receipt of such assistance.

“(B) **SMALL MANUFACTURERS.**—With respect to an assisted small business concern that is a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(6)), subparagraph (A)(i) shall apply with ‘50 percent’ substituted for ‘60 percent’.

“(5) **EXISTING BUILDINGS.**—With respect to a project to acquire, renovate, or reconstruct an existing building, the following shall apply:

“(A) **OCCUPANCY REQUIREMENTS.**—The assisted small business concern may permanently lease not more than 50 percent of the project if the concern permanently occupies and uses not less than 50 percent of the project.

“(B) **EXCEPTION.**—The assisted small business concern may permanently lease more than 50 percent of the project if—

“(i) such concern—

“(I) has occupied and used the existing building for a consecutive 12-month period before submitting an application for assistance under this section;

“(II) agrees to permanently use less than 50 percent of the existing building and permanently lease more than 50 percent for a consecutive 12-month period after receiving such assistance; and

“(III) affirms that the existing building is appropriate for current and reasonably anticipated needs; and

“(ii) the development company assisting such project—

“(I) provides written notice to the Administrator on the date on which the development company closes the loan for such project; and

“(II) once each year during the first 5 years of the loan, and once every 2 years for the remainder of the loan—

“(aa) conducts an examination of the assisted small business concern to ensure the concern is not a real estate development business; and

“(bb) files with the Administrator an anti-investor certification signed by the development company and the assisted small business concern.

“(C) **LEASE TERM.**—Any residential lease made under this paragraph shall be for a term of not more than 1 year, and any com-

mercial lease made under this paragraph shall be for a term of not more than 5 years.”.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall submit to Congress a report analyzing the impact of the amendments made by this section on access to capital for small business concerns (as defined under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)), and recommending whether similar notice, examination, and certifications requirements should be made to the program established under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)).

The **SPEAKER pro tempore**. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The **SPEAKER pro tempore**. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Kansas?

There was no objection.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 1490, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021.

504 loans are an important SBA capital access product, allowing small businesses to affordably purchase machinery and equipment, acquire real estate, or take on other fixed asset costs.

The loan has a three-party structure where an SBA-backed 504 lender provides 40 percent of the financing, a third-party lender provides 50 percent of the financing, and a small business borrower provides 10 percent. This unique structure has helped thousands of entrepreneurs expand their businesses and hire more employees, especially businesses with significant fixed costs.

Last Congress, the Committee on Small Business's Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations held a hearing to review the current status of the 504 loan program. We heard from a panel of 504 lenders who reported concerns with the loan closing process, specifically that closing delays have caused loans to fall through and businesses to lose out on affordable financing.

To that end, Ms. CRAIG put forth a strong proposal to streamline the 504 loan closing process and make compliance easier for CDCs, borrowers, and third-party lenders, who are essential to the 504 loan structure.

Two of the provisions of that bill, which passed unanimously through our committee and the House, were also included in the Economic Aid Act that was enacted in December.

The version of the bill before us today is identical to the version we passed last Congress, but for those provisions included in the Economic Aid Act.

The changes under consideration today continue to address the issues we have heard in our engagement with 504 lenders and their borrowers in our districts, and I am pleased we are taking a vote on them today.

□ 1445

These include increasing the maximum loan size for small manufacturers from \$5.5 million to \$6.5 million and easing the job retention or creation requirement for them, which helps make 504 loans easier to access.

We should be doing everything that we can to make navigating and utilizing this program as simple as possible. As a member of the Small Business Committee, I am committed to helping our small businesses and manufacturers weather this current crisis and to helping Main Street come back even stronger.

It is why I fought to secure \$10 billion for the Defense Production Act in the American Rescue Plan Act to ramp up domestic production of PPE and other critical supplies. It is also why I introduced the SUPPLIES Act, which would promote the manufacturing of PPE and medical supplies by small businesses here in the U.S. I am proud to be a cosponsor of the bill to help small businesses and manufacturers so they can help us.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota and the gentlewoman from California for their hard work, and I applaud their efforts to make bipartisan improvements to this valuable program.

I recommend a “yes” vote to all my colleagues in the House.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1490, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021.

When capital options are limited for a small business, the SBA offers numerous lending programs, including the 504/Certified Development Company Loan Program. Also known as a 504/CDC loan, the program provides long-term and fixed-rate financing that primarily supports purchases of real estate and machinery.

Due to the program's unique cost structure that includes a small business, a lender, and a certified development company, the process is often lengthy and cumbersome. H.R. 1490 takes important steps to streamline the closing process and ensures the Nation's job creators move through the program in a smooth and efficient manner.

Additionally, H.R. 1490 enhances the 504/CDC loan program for America's

small manufacturers. By increasing the maximum loan amount for small manufacturers, H.R. 1490 ensures these small businesses have the capital to expand and create jobs in Missouri and beyond.

Enhancements to lending resources and tools, such as those outlined in H.R. 1490, is exactly what our small businesses, entrepreneurs, and startups need.

I want to highlight the work of Ms. CRAIG from Minnesota, Mrs. KIM from California, Mr. CHABOT from Ohio, and Ms. DAVIDS from Kansas on this important matter. I would also like to thank the chairwoman for her efforts as well.

The changes in H.R. 1490 will improve delivery of the 504/CDC loan program for all of America's small businesses. I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 1490.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG).

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, for over a year now, small businesses in my district and across the country have struggled to make it through this public health and economic crisis. As a result of this pandemic, prospective small business owners face a steeper climb than ever before.

We must do more to make it easy to start, operate, and expand a small business in our communities. One of the most important ways that we can do this is by ensuring that the Small Business Administration's loan programs are operating as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Today, we have two bills that would do exactly that, including my bipartisan bill, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act. These crucial bipartisan pieces of legislation will not only increase the amount of capital available to manufacturers, but will actually ease the process of getting a loan because, in the midst of a severe economic crisis, our businessowners simply cannot be bogged down in red tape and legalese.

Taken together, these bills will help to promote the economic development of small manufacturers, creating good paying jobs in growing industries all across this country.

To demonstrate just how impactful these loans can be, I want to tell you about Nate Bry, a lifelong resident of Rosemount, Minnesota. Thirteen years ago, Nate founded a sports apparel company called Custom Apparel Inc. in the basement of his home. After years of hard work, Nate felt that it was finally time to reach a turning point, but he didn't have the resources he needed to take his business to the next level. When Nate received a 504 loan, he was immediately able to invest in his company, building a facility to manufacture his products right in his hometown, creating good-paying jobs in the very same community where he grew up.

Nate's story, like so many others, is proof that the 504 loan program can change the lives of small business owners in this country. This program ensures that small businesses like Nate's are able to succeed, bringing home the job growth and economic stability that our communities are striving for, especially as we emerge from this devastating economic crisis.

Because these are not simply businesses. These are livelihoods, family traditions, and priceless contributions to our communities, and we have an opportunity to support them on a bipartisan basis by taking action today.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to come together and join me in supporting these bills and businesses across our Nation.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), someone who believes in cutting red tape to help ease the regulatory burden on all our small businesses.

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative LUETKEMEYER for his leadership in the House Small Business Committee. I would also like to extend my special thanks to Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ for putting forward these very important bills.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1490, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021.

I was proud to join my colleagues, Representatives CRAIG, DAVIDS, and CHABOT, to introduce this bipartisan bill to modernize the SBA's 504 loan program. The program was established with the mission to incentivize economic growth and job creation by providing small businesses with affordable long-term financing.

Our bill will provide the SBA with the tools to assist small businesses as they recover during COVID-19. H.R. 1490 would expand eligibility of 504 loans for small businesses that have focused on workforce development, revitalized areas hit hard by the pandemic or disaster areas, and implemented energy-efficient products, or have 10 or fewer employees. These additions will strengthen the 504 loan program for the long run and help small businesses in my community access much-needed capital.

The bill will also streamline the closing process of 504 loans. Specifically, H.R. 1490 allows Certified Development Companies to rectify documentation without the implicit approval of the SBA. These corrections will allow small businesses to make investments in their community or hire more workers without delay.

Lastly, the bill would support our small manufacturers to ensure that our community's manufacturing base remains strong and competitive during these difficult times.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 1490.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY), a small business owner herself who knows the importance of cutting red tape and how it can be linked to success of a small business.

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member LUETKEMEYER for bringing forth this great bipartisan bill.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1490, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act. I am proud to cosponsor this bill with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle.

This bipartisan legislation improves the loan guaranty program and helps small manufacturers access capital by streamlining the loan process and providing support to manufacturers who apply for the loan from local Small Business Administration district offices.

As small businesses across the country and throughout New York's 22nd District continue to struggle with the devastating impacts of COVID-19, we must provide targeted support to our small businesses and manufacturers, and H.R. 1490 does just that.

This legislation increases the maximum loan amount to \$6.5 million and requires SBA district offices to partner with SBA resource partners to provide entrepreneurial development assistance to small manufacturers, which are abundant in central New York.

This bill will also work to lower costs and streamline numerous administrative processes for small manufacturers, giving these businesses the tools and support they need to keep their doors open, something that has been said to me repeatedly through numerous townhalls with the small business community around the region.

As a member of the House Small Business Committee and, as the ranking member indicated, the owner of a small manufacturing facility that is in its 75th year in central New York, I am pleased to cosponsor H.R. 1490 and the other three small business bills on the floor today. These four bills will provide targeted relief to small businesses across New York's 22nd District and throughout the Nation. At a time when Americans seek true bipartisanship from its elected officials, I am honored to be part of that effort.

Madam Speaker, I thank Representative CRAIG from Minnesota and Representative KIM from California for their leadership on this issue. I look forward to continuing to work with them on this matter.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, we have one more gentleman coming, but there is a long path between

his office and here. Apparently he is not here on time, so I am prepared to close.

Madam Speaker, as our economy continues to recover and as our small businesses rebuild, existing Federal Government programs, tools, and resources need to be ready to provide assistance. Processes that are slow and unwieldy must be examined and retooled to ensure they are working on behalf of small businesses and the American public.

H.R. 1490, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021, takes these steps to streamline the program while ensuring it is a viable option for small businesses as they recover and grow.

Additionally, H.R. 1490 places a direct focus on our Nation's small manufacturers. We must continue to work in a bipartisan manner to ensure these programs are ready for recovery.

With that, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1490.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the SBA's 504 loan program has made a significant impact on our Main Streets in its 62-year history.

In addition to partnering with banks to extend affordable fixed-asset capital, most CDCs in the program are also actively involved in promoting local economic development, especially for underserved business communities.

I am proud of the opportunity we have today to continue supporting the work of CDCs. I want to applaud the work by the gentlewoman from Minnesota, the gentlewoman from California, and their bipartisan effort on the 504 program.

I encourage all of my colleagues to vote "yes."

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1490.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

504 CREDIT RISK MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1482) to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Credit Risk Management, to

require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules relating to environmental obligations of certified development companies, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1482

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF CREDIT RISK MANAGEMENT.

Section 47 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657t) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) DUTIES.—The Office—

"(1) shall be responsible for—

"(A) supervising—

"(i) any lender making loans under section 7(a) (in this section referred to as a '7(a) lender');"

"(ii) any Lending Partner or Intermediary participant of the Administration in a lending program of the Office of Capital Access of the Administration;

"(iii) any small business lending company or a non-Federally regulated lender without regard to the requirements of section 23; and

"(iv) any certified development company described under the program established under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (referred to in this section as a 'certified development company'), as provided in subsection (k); and

"(B) conducting file reviews with respect to loan closings under the program established under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as provided in subsection (j); and

"(2) may—

"(A) take formal and informal enforcement actions against a certified development company, as provided in subsection (l); and

"(B) charge a certified development company a fee, as provided in subsection (m)."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

"(j) LOAN CLOSING FILE REVIEWS.—With respect to a loan closing under the program established under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, the Office shall be responsible for the following:

"(1) Conducting a complete file review of a random selection of all loan closings, the number, frequency, and conduct of which shall be at the discretion of the Office, to ensure program integrity, including a review of the items listed on the Checklist for Complete File Review contained in the appropriate form of the Administration.

"(2) Not later than 60 days after the date on which each complete file review conducted under paragraph (1) is completed, preparing a written report documenting the results of that review, which the Office shall send to—

"(A) the applicable certified development company;

"(B) the designated attorney that closed the loan for the certified development company; and

"(C) the Commercial Loan Service Center.

"(3) If a complete file review conducted under paragraph (1) reveals a deficiency that could result in a loss to the Administration, requiring the applicable certified development company or the designated attorney to promptly correct the deficiency.

"(k) SUPERVISION OF CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES.—With respect to the supervision of certified development companies—

“(1) an employee of the Office shall—

“(A) be present for, and supervise, the review of any such company that is conducted by a contractor of the Office on the premises of the company; and

“(B) supervise the review of any such company that is conducted by a contractor of the Office that is not conducted on the premises of the company; and

“(2) the Administrator shall—

“(A) develop a timeline for the review by the Office of certified development companies and the submission of reports regarding those reviews, under which the Administrator shall—

“(i) submit to a certified development company a written report of any review of the company not later than 90 days after the date on which the review is concluded; or

“(ii) if the Administrator expects to submit the report after the end of the 90-day period described in clause (i), notify the company of the expected date of submission of the report and the reason for the delay; and

“(B) if a response by a certified development company is requested in a report submitted under subparagraph (A)(i), require the company to submit responses to the Administrator not later than 45 business days after the date on which the company receives the report.

“(1) ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY AGAINST CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES.—

“(1) INFORMAL ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—The Director may take an informal enforcement action against a certified development company if the Director finds that the company has violated a statutory or regulatory requirement or any requirement in a Standard Operating Procedures Manual or Policy Notice relating to a program or function of the Office of Capital Access.

“(2) FORMAL ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—With the approval of the Lender Oversight Committee established under section 48, the Director may take a formal enforcement action against any certified development company if the Director finds that the company has violated—

“(i) a statutory or regulatory requirement, including a requirement relating to the necessary funds for making loans when those funds are not made available to the company from private sources on reasonable terms; or

“(ii) any requirement described in a Standard Operating Procedures Manual or Policy Notice relating to a program or function of the Office of Capital Access.

“(B) ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS.—The decision to take an enforcement action against a certified development company under subparagraph (A) shall be based on the severity or frequency of the violation and may include assessing a civil monetary penalty against the company in an amount that is not greater than \$250,000.

“(3) FAILURE TO SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORT.—With respect to a certified development company that, as of the date that is 30 days after the date on which the company is required to submit any report, fails to submit that report, the Director may—

“(A) suspend the company from participating in the program established under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 for a period that is not longer than 30 days; or

“(B) impose a penalty on the company in an amount to be determined by the Director, except that the amount of the penalty shall be not more than \$10,000.

“(m) FEE AUTHORITY REGARDING CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective one year after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Office may collect from each certified development company a fee, the amount of which—

“(A) shall be determined on a graduated scale according to the size of the portfolio of the certified development company with respect to the program carried out under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958; and

“(B) shall not exceed the amount that is 1 basis point with respect to the value of the portfolio described in subparagraph (A).

“(2) PAYMENT.—A certified development company on which a fee is imposed under paragraph (1) shall pay the fee from the servicing fees collected by the development company pursuant to regulation.”.

SEC. 3. RULES RELATING TO OBLIGATIONS OF CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES UNDER THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue rules to clarify the procedures necessary for an eligible certified development company to comply with the applicable requirements under National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

(c) ELIGIBLE CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANY DEFINED.—In this section, the term “eligible certified development company” means a certified development company defined under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) that receives assistance pursuant to such title.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Kansas?

There was no objection.

□ 1500

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 1482, the 504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act, which clarifies the oversight role of the SBA's Office of Credit Risk Management in respect to CDCs.

To improve oversight of the SBA business loan programs, including the 7(a) and 504 loan programs, the agency established the Office of Credit Risk Management—OCRM—within the Office of Capital Access. OCRM conducts periodic reviews of SBA lenders to ensure they are complying with program requirements.

In 2018, Congress passed bipartisan legislation to codify the office and gave it the tools it needs to conduct proper oversight and hold noncompliant lenders accountable.

It was our intent to boost the office's enforcement powers to help minimize the likelihood that business loan programs would face losses and reduce the need for Congress to appropriate funds.

I should point out that these programs are designed to operate at zero subsidy, meaning they come at no cost to the taxpayer, and we intend to keep it that way.

I am pleased that the gentleman from North Carolina, along with the gentlewoman from Minnesota, worked together to bring this bill to life last Congress. This bill clarifies OCRM's oversight role and shifts loan closing file review responsibilities to the office and, in turn, keeps the program running at a zero subsidy. I applaud their bipartisanship and, more importantly, their commitment to America's small businesses.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote “yes,” and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 1482, the 504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act of 2021.

I thank the chair again for advancing all these bills that are meant to assist small businesses across the Nation. I also thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP), the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS), the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG), as well as the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) for working in a bipartisan manner to strengthen the 504/CDC loan program.

Government programs, especially government guaranteed loan programs, are only as strong as the oversight that is required.

In order to protect and safeguard American tax dollars, executive branch agencies must have a watchful eye focused on these programs.

The Office of Credit Risk Management is a division at the Small Business Administration that is charged with overseeing many of the government guaranteed lending programs that the SBA offers to small businesses. H.R. 1482 ensures the Office of Credit Risk Management has a trained eye focused on the 504/CDC loan program.

Specifically, the legislation outlines how the office should conduct reviews under the lending program.

Additionally, H.R. 1482 details the enforcement authority of the Office of Credit Risk Management. These enhancements will ensure the program operates effectively and efficiently into the future.

Lastly, the bill requires the SBA to clearly and concisely define how the 504/CDC loan program operates in conjunction with the Nation's environmental laws and rules. Unfortunately, this process currently lacks certainty by the SBA.

Simply put, Federal Government programs require robust oversight and the

programs must have clear rules for small businesses. H.R. 1482 addresses both of these issues head on.

Madam Speaker, I urge and recommend all my colleagues to support H.R. 1482, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), the former chairman of the Small Business Committee.

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1482.

I thank my colleague from Minnesota, Representative ANGIE CRAIG, for working with me on this bipartisan bill.

I also thank the other cosponsors, Representatives SHARICE DAVIDS and YOUNG KIM, for their work; as well as the full chair of the committee, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, who I worked with many years either with myself as chair and she as ranking, or her as chair and myself as ranking.

I thank Mr. LUETKEMEYER for the great job he is doing. At this point he is the ranking member of the committee. Hopefully he will be chair next time, depending on what the American people think a year and a half down the road.

So what does this legislation do?

A number of things. It streamlines the 504 loan closing process, clarifies the loan closing and oversight process, and enhances the program for small manufacturers. And small manufacturers are absolutely critical in the economy nowadays. And we were actually making great strides in bringing back more and more jobs there until COVID hit. So that is why programs like this are so important to give them the assistance that they need to get those jobs growing once again in that sector of the economy.

The 504 program has been one of the more successful of the SBA—the Small Business Administration—loan programs over the years, and it is really crucial as we recover from COVID-caused hardships of the past year.

The SBA CDC/504 loan program provides the Nation's smallest businesses with long-term and fixed-rate financing. Importantly, it requires that certain economic development criteria are in place to qualify for the program. And job creation and job retention are critical goals of the program.

This bill passed the House last December in the previous Congress, and I am happy to see it on the floor again this Congress. Hopefully we will get this bill signed into law this time and help provide small businesses with the support they need to recover from the pandemic, and hopefully we will be looking at the pandemic in the rear-view mirror sooner rather than later.

I thank the Small Business Committee for the great work they are doing on behalf of America's small

businesses. It is one of those committees that really does work in a bipartisan manner, Republicans and Democrats working together, and that is absolutely critical if we are going to get anything done.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), a really hard worker and a big supporter of small businesses around this country.

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Ranking Member LUETKEMEYER for yielding.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 1482, the 504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act of 2021.

I am proud to have joined my colleagues, Representatives ANGIE CRAIG, DAN BISHOP, and SHARICE DAVIDS, to introduce this important bipartisan bill.

The Small Business Administration's 504 loan program provides small businesses with affordable long-term financing to purchase major fixed assets, such as machinery and real estate. This bill would ensure that our taxpayers' hard-earned dollars are spent effectively by enhancing oversight responsibilities of the SBA Office of Credit Risk Management.

Our bill will provide the SBA with the tools to enforce penalties for any violation of rules and regulations. By providing the SBA with these tools, we look to strengthen the 504 loan program for many years to come.

Additionally, this bill provides consistent and clear guidance when requiring certain environmental certifications. This change will provide small businesses with certainty about requirements and uniform regulations across the country.

For any Federal program to be successful, Congress and the executive branch must work together to ensure that we have a regulatory framework that is efficient and able to prevent fraud and abuse of taxpayer dollars. I commend my colleagues from both sides of the aisle for their leadership on this important issue.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 1482.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise in support of my legislation, the 504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act of 2021.

As you may remember, this exact bill passed unanimously last December, and I hope the commonsense measure can pass overwhelmingly again.

For those who do not know about the 504 program, this was one of the first programs established at the Small Business Administration and has been a key tool for economic development.

To receive financing, 504 loan recipients must create jobs or meet public policy goals, like aiding rural development or revitalizing a business district.

In its economic development role, the 504 program has provided access to capital and helped build communities across the country for over six decades.

To ensure the program's continued success and viability for years to come, I partnered with Representative ANGIE CRAIG to craft a bill that provides the SBA with the tools necessary to maintain the long-term health of the 504 program.

This bill codifies the SBA's oversight responsibilities for the 504 program and provides the Office of Credit Risk Management with full control of the review process for certified development companies, known as CDCs, that deliver this program.

The legislation also establishes a formal process of communication between the Office of Credit Risk Management and CDCs to facilitate reviews to make sure the SBA is providing timely feedback to CDCs.

Additionally, this legislation requires the SBA to provide clear direction to certified development companies as they navigate environmental rules and regulations.

Finally, this bill will help ensure that the program continues to operate on the fees built into the program.

SBA programs, including the 504 program, have been at the forefront of economic aid to businesses struggling as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The SBA core lending programs will continue to play a key role in business recovery.

I am proud to do my part to ensure the 504 program continues to be a lifeline to businesses and communities today and into the future.

I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member LUETKEMEYER for their leadership. I thank my colleague, Ms. CRAIG, for her partnership on this important bill. I also thank Mrs. YOUNG KIM, Ms. DAVIDS, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. COHEN for their support of this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time, and I am prepared to close.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Oversight of Federal Government programs is paramount to ensure American taxpayer dollars are used wisely. H.R. 1482 not only increases the oversight capabilities of the SBA over the 504/CDC loan program, but also requires clear and concise guidance for small business owners moving forward. There are sound changes that will improve the program for future 504/CDC borrowers.

I applaud all Members for working on this legislation and all of the small business bills before us today. We must continue to put our Nation's job creators at the forefront of this economic recovery.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take a few moments to make a couple comments here with regard to all the bills that we have offered here today. All these bills dealt with things that deal with oversight.

We, as legislators in this body, have two jobs. One is to provide legislation to improve the lives of our businesses and the people in this country, protect our country. Second is to provide oversight over all of the activities that go on within the executive branch, as well as the judicial branch, to whatever extent we can.

In our committee, we oversee the legislation with regard to the Small Business Administration, as well as oversight of their activities. We have come to find over the last several weeks here that the inspector general reports that the SBA is not being run as well as it should. There is fraud rampant in some of the programs, which is verified by the AG reports. We have a new Administrator who has got her hands full because of the lack of knowledge of what goes on with all the brand-new things going on.

So we have got a real problem and we, as legislators, have got to step up. These bills today are just one step in the process of providing the kind of oversight that it takes. We will continue to provide oversight, I can assure you. And those listening and watching today need to take heart in the fact that we are going to continue to provide the kind of oversight over the Small Business Administration and all of its programs that we have been tasked with and are responsible for.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1482, the last bill we will discuss today, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, in its 62-year history, the SBA's 504 loan program has helped thousands of entrepreneurs acquire heavy machinery and equipment, expand to more locations, and hire workers. It has long been a strong-performing SBA program and has enjoyed consistent bipartisan support.

We must continue to take all steps needed to preserve the integrity of the 504 program and ensure it will be an option for the next generation of entrepreneurs. Passing the bill before us today will help us do so.

I thank Mr. BISHOP and Ms. CRAIG for their hard work and collaboration in bringing this bill to the floor today. I also thank Mr. LUETKEMEYER for his leadership today and his unwavering commitment to our Nation's 30 million small businesses.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1482.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

□ 1515

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7, PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1195, WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION FOR HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICE WORKERS ACT

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 303 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 303

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 7) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 2 of this resolution; (3) the amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution; and (4) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. After debate pursuant to the first section of this resolution, each further amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 of this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 3. It shall be in order at any time after debate pursuant to the first section of this resolution for the chair of the Com-

mittee on Education and Labor or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 4. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1195) to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 5 of this resolution; (3) the amendments en bloc described in section 6 of this resolution; and (4) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 5. After debate pursuant to section 4 of this resolution, each further amendment printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 6 of this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 6. It shall be in order at any time after debate pursuant to section 4 of this resolution for the chair of the Committee on Education and Labor or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 7. All points of order against the further amendments printed in parts B and C of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution or amendments en bloc described in sections 3 and 6 of this resolution are waived.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield

the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, yesterday the Committee on Rules met and reported a rule, House Resolution 303, providing for consideration of H.R. 7, the Paycheck Fairness Act, under a structured rule. It provides 1 hour of debate, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. It self-executes a manager's amendment from Chairman SCOTT and makes in order six amendments to H.R. 7. It also provides for one motion to recommit.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 1195, the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act, under a structured rule. It provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor and makes in order six amendments to H.R. 1195. It also provides for one motion to recommit. Finally, the rule provides for an en bloc authority to Chairman SCOTT or his designee for both bills.

Madam Speaker, before I begin, I just wanted to take a moment—this is the first time I have been on the floor since we lost Congressman Hastings—to say for myself, personally, how much gratitude I have for having known him and been able to serve with him. I regret that I won't see his smiling face, at least in this body, again.

Madam Speaker, the two bills we are talking about today have the potential to drastically improve the working lives of millions of Americans.

In 2019, nearly 1 in 9 women in the United States lived in poverty, with even higher rates for women of color. More than 1 in 3 families, headed by unmarried mothers, lived in poverty. And 60 percent of all poor children lived in families headed by unmarried mothers.

The coronavirus pandemic has only deepened the divides that already existed in this country. Women are especially likely to be on the front lines of the pandemic. At the same time, they are also being paid less than their male counterparts.

Madam Speaker, 93 percent of childcare workers, 66 percent of grocery store cashiers, 70 percent of food servers, and 77 percent of clothing, shoe stores, and retail salespeople are women. Women—disproportionately Black women and Latinas—make up

more than 8 in 10 of those working as home health aides, personal care aides, and nursing assistants. They are also at great risk for contracting COVID-19.

Madam Speaker, 6 months ago, deep into the pandemic, 1 in 6 Latinas and 1 in 5 Black women reported not having enough food in the previous week, and many reported being behind on rent or mortgage payments. Even before the pandemic, women typically lost more than \$10,000 every year to the gender wage gap, with even higher losses for women of color.

More than five decades after the passage of the Equal Pay Act of 1963, a woman in America still makes only 82 cents on average for every dollar earned by her male counterpart. Compared to White men, Black women are paid 63 cents. Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander women are paid 63 cents, American Indian or Alaska Native women are paid 60 cents and Hispanic women are paid 55 cents.

Based on today's wage gap, a woman who works full time year-round stands to lose over \$400,000 over a 40-year career because of this disparity. This is not the United States that Frances Perkins, the first woman Secretary, envisioned, and we have an opportunity today to make a real change.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to have joined with my very dear friend, Chairwoman DELAURO, to introduce the Paycheck Fairness Act, which is an important step towards ending gender-based wage discrimination and ensuring that all women receive equal pay for equal work. It is time to make equal pay for equal work more than just a slogan and turn it into a reality.

Madam Speaker, we are also here to talk about the epidemic of violence against healthcare and social service workers. Last year, Department of Labor statistics show that they were nearly five times as likely to suffer a serious workplace violence injury than workers in other industries.

The General Accounting Office found that rates of violence against healthcare workers in hospitals, nursing homes, and residential care facilities is 5 to 12 times higher than the estimated rates for workers overall. Between 2011 and 2016, 58 hospital workers died as a result of workplace violence.

Madam Speaker, for me, this matter strikes close to home. In 2010, Napa State Hospital technician Donna K. Gross was killed outside of Napa State Hospital by a patient under psychiatric care. Donna was a constituent. She entered the profession to honor her mother, who battled mental illness and was a patient at this very same hospital. She was the mother of three grown children and was raising her granddaughter. Her colleagues described her by saying: "First and foremost, Donna was a human service-type person and loved being with people and working with people."

Donna's life was cut short when a patient brutally murdered her to steal jewelry and cash. This story is just one

of thousands, and incidents are on the rise. Sadly, violence has become so commonplace for healthcare workers that they think it is part of their job, resulting in only 30 percent of violent incidents actually being reported.

Some States have stepped up to enact laws to require employers to establish a plan to protect against workplace violence. Donna's story, for example, inspired action in California that I was proud to be part of. That action in California served as the basis for the bill before us tomorrow.

These workers deserve national action, and they deserve it now. At the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, these workers are not receiving the urgent attention they need.

OSHA takes at least 7 years to put out a standard. But in some instances, it can take more than 20 years. People like Donna Kay Gross cannot wait any longer.

To protect the people who dedicate their lives to caring for us, we need to move now. In truth, we needed to move years ago. The longer we wait, the more people are suffering. The longer we wait, the more people like Donna will die.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1530

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Mr. DESAULNIER from California for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I first want to acknowledge, along with Mr. DESAULNIER, the poignant loss that we all feel here in the House with the departure of our friend, Alcee Hastings. He was a fixture in the Rules Committee for all the years I have been on the committee. Certainly, while yesterday we acknowledged that we feel his absence, we also feel his presence. He was truly larger than life on the committee.

Today's rule provides for consideration of two bills that are meant to improve working conditions and compensation. The House actually considered these same bills last Congress. They did not receive consideration in the Senate, and I do not believe any substance has changed in the underlying bills.

The first bill, H.R. 7, the Paycheck Fairness Act, seeks to prevent wage discrimination on the basis of sex, a fact that is already prohibited under current law. This legislation will help trial lawyers but offers no new protections against pay discrimination.

The Equal Pay Act of 1963 prohibits all discrimination in pay based upon sex or any other non-job-performance-related issue. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act protects against discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, and sex. Sex-based wage disparity is in direct violation of not one but two Federal laws.

It is important to acknowledge that bad actors engage in gender pay discrimination. Their actions are illegal,

and they leave employers vulnerable to burdensome lawsuits and heavy fines.

I could not agree more that such discrimination has no place in any business or in society in general. However, those who perpetrate these illegal acts are the exception and not the rule.

Congress must not forget the positive economic trends that this Nation enjoyed before the arrival of the novel coronavirus in the United States. The Trump administration made great strides reining in Federal overreach, which quickly improved opportunities for all Americans. Unemployment was at the lowest level in nearly half a century, and median wages across all demographic groups rose faster than at any other time in American history.

Unfortunately, the majority has crafted legislation that would place greater burdens on employers, reduce the privacy of employees, and increase Federal spending. H.R. 7 does little to protect the wages of American workers who are experiencing gender pay discrimination. In fact, it makes it harder for employers to defend legitimate differentials in pay based on factors other than sex.

Currently, employers may pay differential wages due to factors other than sex, like education, training, or experience. This means that all other things being equal, a woman cannot be paid differently than a man. When an employee brings different qualifications to the job, such as she has an advanced degree or more experience, the factors used to evaluate employee pay are no longer equal. This preserves the flexibility for employers to make the best decision for their businesses, including hiring the most qualified individuals, regardless of sex.

H.R. 7 would now require that non-sex reasons for any wage disparity have a business necessity, a term which is not defined in the bill. Providing a gender-based business necessity that accounts for the entire differential in pay is nearly an impossible standard to defend against.

This change to a bona fide factor defense does not consider the reality of the labor market. Employees are often willing to accept lower pay for greater control over their work location, schedule, and vacation time. Studies have shown that this is particularly true for women.

With the threat of lawsuits hanging over the heads of employers, they are less likely to allow for flexibility in the workplace. Instead of allowing employees to negotiate their own pay and work arrangements, employers will be incentivized to transform jobs that were once negotiable and flexible into jobs that are much more rigid.

H.R. 7 also limits an employer's ability to pay its employees based on performance. If a woman were to earn a performance-based bonus or salary increase that her male coworker did not receive, then that man could file suit against the employer on the basis that the bonus is not a business necessity

due to the vagueness in terms in H.R. 7. With this threat in mind, employers are much less likely to use performance-based pay and bonuses, despite studies showing that such pay models actually do increase employee productivity.

While legitimate claims do exist, and I hope that all employees who have experienced discrimination do seek legal remedy, the changes in H.R. 7 would significantly increase the size and profitability of lawsuits, making nonmeritorious claims even more likely for trial lawyers looking for new cash flows. That is the inherent danger.

H.R. 7 also requires employers to provide disaggregated employee information to the Department of Labor without delineating mechanisms to keep that information safe. Have we ever heard that the Federal Government has lost employee data or that the Federal Government may not be the best steward of citizens' private information? Maybe we should limit the data received until those capabilities are, in fact, improved and verified.

The second bill included in this rule, H.R. 1195, requires that the Secretary of Labor issue a rule on workplace violence prevention in the healthcare and social service sectors. Some may be surprised to hear that acts of violence are the third leading cause of fatal occupational injuries. Of these incidents, approximately 8 percent were intentionally caused by another person.

When Americans go to work each day, they do not expect to face violence or other harm. This risk is especially high for healthcare providers and social workers. These caregivers can be subject to patients who may not be in control when under the influence of medication or may have some other mental stress, upset family members, ongoing domestic disputes, and, unfortunately, even gang violence.

The rate of workplace violence resulting in days away from work for healthcare providers is, on average, four times higher than for other professions. In addition, healthcare providers and social workers are less likely to report incidents. This may be partly due to the pledge to do no harm and the inclination to forgive patient-caused injuries as accidental. Regardless of the situation, all workers deserve a safe workplace.

Currently, there is no mandatory standard on workplace violence prevention. However, in 2015, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration published guidelines for preventing workplace violence for healthcare and social service workers and is currently working on a rule for workplace violence prevention.

H.R. 1195 would require the Secretary of Labor to issue a rule on workplace violence prevention based upon OSHA's 2015 guidelines. An interim standard is required within 1 year, and a final rule must be issued within 2 years.

While the goal of this legislation is very important, the timeframe im-

posed on the Department of Labor and OSHA does exceed the norm. While no one believes that we should continue to delay worker protections, OSHA has already begun the rulemaking process and is gathering stakeholder input.

Perhaps, rather than pass a bill to require the issuance of a rule, we should be considering reforms to the entire OSHA rulemaking process. In other words, let's improve the bureaucracy rather than simply flogging it.

While an OSHA rulemaking would ensure enforcement of workplace violence prevention policies, according to a 2018 American Hospital Association survey, 97 percent of respondents reported they already have a workplace violence prevention policy in place. In 2019, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated that additional research was required to identify effective strategies to prevent violence, particularly in healthcare settings.

We can all agree that there is a need for OSHA to do its work to issue a workplace violence prevention regulation to protect healthcare providers and social service workers. I hope we are able to accomplish this goal, but I do worry that we are placing another costly burden on entities through what is supposed to be an expedited process that may require modification in the future to ensure an effective and safe workplace for all Americans.

Madam Speaker, I urge opposition to the rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), the distinguished chair of the Rules Committee and representative of the beautiful city of Worcester, Massachusetts.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California, a distinguished member of the Rules Committee and also a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, for yielding me the time.

Madam Speaker, I support this rule and the underlying legislation, and I urge my colleagues on both sides to do the same. I hope they all will vote for the rule.

The two bills that we are bringing to the floor are the product of regular order. They went through the committee process, hearings and markups.

We, in the Rules Committee, made the Republican substitutes in order so they can try to defend their ideas, which I don't agree with. Nonetheless, other Republican amendments are made in order as well. But then again, I guess there is not much we can do to make some of my friends happy.

Madam Speaker, I rise for a more somber purpose, and that is to honor my friend and colleague, Congressman ALCEE HASTINGS, who we lost last week after a courageous battle with cancer. I am proud to have sat side-by-side with him in the Rules Committee for many years.

I often say that the Rules Committee is like a family. To those outsiders who

are observing the Rules Committee, we can sometimes look a little bit like a dysfunctional family, but nonetheless, we are a family. Today, our family is in mourning.

This House is already a little less joyful and a little less purpose-driven without him here. That was the thing about ALCEE HASTINGS. Whether he was in the majority or the minority, or whether he liked what we were considering on this floor or not, he relished his service in this institution. He used every day here to wage worthy fights on behalf of justice.

His election marked the first time an African American was elected from Florida since the Civil War era. He went on to become the first Black chairman of the Helsinki Commission, a respected voice on the world stage.

There was not a barrier he was afraid to break. He was steadfast in providing a voice to all those who needed an ally, including minorities, children, immigrants, and people struggling in poverty.

Madam Speaker, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge that he could do more with the simple turn of a phrase than many of us could do with 100 words or more. As he was yielding back his time in the committee or here on the floor, especially if he felt that we were considering a bill that somehow was disadvantaging vulnerable people in this country, he would get up and give a stern and passionate and succinct lecture to this body. Then he would conclude by saying: That is my story, and I am sticking to it. And if I offended any of you by what I said, that was intentional.

It was pure Alcee Hastings. He chose his words carefully, and he meant every one of them. Now I have lost a dear friend, this Congress has lost a giant, and those who all too often go unseen in America have lost a champion.

We send our prayers and our condolences to his family, to his dedicated and wonderful staff, and to his constituents, knowing that these Halls will never see someone quite like him again.

May he rest in peace.

□ 1545

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, Republicans will amend the rule immediately to consider H.R. 2430, the Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act. This critical bill would extend the Drug Enforcement Administration's authority to temporarily schedule fentanyl analogues for another year.

Unfortunately, President Biden's open border policy is encouraging drug trafficking of substances like fentanyl. So it is imperative that the Drug Enforcement Administration retain this authority to keep those dangerous substances out of our communities.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, this is a critical reauthorization and it is imperative to maintaining our Nation's efforts to address the opiate epidemic.

In February of 2018, the Drug Enforcement Administration used its authority to place nonscheduled fentanyl-like substances temporarily into schedule I for a period of 2 years. It is important that we do not let this authorization lapse, as it listed fentanyl is still an eminent threat to Americans.

The Drug Enforcement Administration testified that the positive impacts since implementing this temporary schedule are significant, stating that prior to this action, the DEA observed a rapid and continuous emergence of a new fentanyl-like substance each time it is scheduled to remove a fentanyl-like substance. In other words, you take one out and one would pop up.

We simply cannot return to that reality because of the deadly nature of this substance.

Just last month, two north Texas teenagers died from counterfeit pills containing fentanyl. Last year, the Dallas DEA found over 16 kilograms of fentanyl targeting the region. It contained over 8 million lethal doses—one for every north Texas resident.

Unfortunately, throughout this pandemic, the opiate crisis has continued, and it has gotten worse. Exacerbating this problem is the ease with which fentanyl is being smuggled across our southern border. The changes in border security enforcement that have occurred have sent a message to the cartels and the drug smugglers that securing our sovereignty is no longer an administration priority. What is worse is that some adults and children are forced to carry these drugs into the United States by smugglers. Sometimes innocent individuals traffic drugs into the United States in their vehicles without even knowing that the cartels have placed it there without their knowledge.

The only way to limit the exploitation of innocent individuals and to protect our American communities is to limit the market for these vile products.

During the past year, this country has suffered over half a million deaths to an unforeseen disease. We should do everything we can to trample the market of a known killer: fentanyl. We must equip our communities to address this issue at its very source.

The temporary emergency rescheduling of fentanyl analogues to schedule I is a necessary tool for the Drug Enforcement Administration to work with other agencies and law enforce-

ment officials to address the threat of illicit fentanyl.

Madam Speaker, I strongly support this bill, and I strongly urge fellow Members to defeat the previous question and support H.R. 2430.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) to speak on the amendment.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am here today to ask my colleagues across the aisle to support the efforts outlined in H.R. 2430 to extend the emergency scheduling of fentanyl analogues.

This is an opportunity for us to work together to help stem the flow of deadly fentanyl and its analogues into our country. This is also an issue that impacts every one of us and the communities that we call home.

We all know someone who has been the victim of an addictive or illegal opioid. Just last week in my home State of Georgia, the Georgia attorney general announced that he is investigating fatal drug overdoses blamed on counterfeit medications—medications laced with fentanyl. Those individuals bought illegal products they believed to be Xanax, Percocet, and Roxicodone. These clusters of overdoses were spread across my State, and I know we are not alone. It continues to take the lives of our fellow Americans, and more must be done to fight this.

Fentanyl is an extremely dangerous substance. Three milligrams is enough to be fatal. It is 50 times more potent than heroin. First responders just touching or accidentally inhaling the substance can experience severe complications and possible death.

So where is this coming from?

Across the border with Mexico.

The GAO even reports that seizures of fentanyl from Mexico increased by more than 200 percent from 2018 to 2020.

Every year, U.S. Border Patrol agents intercept enough fentanyl to kill every single American several times over. In fact, the CBP announced in 2019 that they had enough seized fentanyl to kill 800 million people.

I visited the border last week to see this crisis firsthand. I was surprised. It wasn't a crisis. It was a disaster. It is a disaster on the border. Border Patrol agents are so overwhelmed with a 20-year record high number of illegal immigrants that smugglers and cartels are using this as an opportunity to traffic more fentanyl.

If the President and Vice President would visit the border like I did, then they would be able to talk to the agents firsthand and see for themselves how serious this issue is. Instead, they have elected to leave our border wide open.

We are inviting drug traffickers to bring fentanyl into the country and distribute it into our streets—my streets and your streets, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, if we don't look at long-term scheduling options for all

fentanyl products, then we remove the last line of defense to provide a deterrent to illegal distribution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Our communities are at risk, Madam Speaker, your community and my community—all of our communities. They don't care if it is a Democratic community or a Republican community. They are at risk.

It is time for us to work together as a Congress to pass good legislation. We started to address the opioid epidemic in a bipartisan fashion when Republicans were in the majority with the passage of the SUPPORT Act—a bipartisan product—and the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act. We should get back to working together, and this is a great opportunity to do so.

Madam Speaker, as you know, professionally I am a pharmacist. I have witnessed this. It does not discriminate. Opioid addiction doesn't care if you are a Republican, a Democrat, a male, a female, African American, Caucasian, or Hispanic. It does not care. It is an addiction that is paralyzing our country.

Madam Speaker, I urge defeat of the previous question so that we can immediately consider H.R. 2430.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL).

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, just to follow Chairman MCGOVERN, I thank him for his very kind words on my friend and neighbor, Alcee Hastings, who was a brilliant and forceful advocate for justice and the great senior leader of the Florida delegation. We miss him dearly.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from the National Urban League in support of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE,

April 14, 2021.

Re Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 7) and vote no on harmful amendments.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the National Urban League, with 90 local affiliates in 36 states and the District of Columbia, I strongly urge you to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, H.R. 7, without amendments that limit its scope or undermine its critical protections.

The National Urban League is a civil rights organization dedicated to the economic empowerment of African Americans and other underserved populations. The National Urban League and our affiliate movement have a strong interest in ensuring equity in the workplace, including payment.

Despite federal and state equal pay laws, gender pay gaps persist, and earnings lost to these gaps are exacerbating the financial effects of COVID-19, falling particularly heavily on women of color and the families who depend on their income. The Paycheck Fairness Act, which has been passed three previous times by the House of Representatives, mostly recently in the 116th Congress, offers

a much-needed update to the Equal Pay Act of 1963 by providing new tools to battle pervasive pay gaps and to challenge discrimination.

Women are increasingly the primary or co-breadwinner in their families and cannot afford to be shortchanged any longer. Women working full-time, year-round are typically paid only 82 cents for every dollar paid to men, adding up to a loss of more than \$400,000 over a lifetime. This wage gap varies by race and is often larger for women of color: Black women working full time, year-round typically make only 63 cents, Native American women only 60 cents, and Latinas only 55 cents, for every dollar paid to their white, non-Hispanic male counterparts. Over the course of a 40-year career, Black women lose nearly \$1 million in earnings and Latinas lose more than \$1 million. While Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) women make 85 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men, many AAPI communities experience drastically wider pay gaps. Moms are paid less than dads. And even when controlling for factors like education and experience, pay gaps persist and start early in women's careers and contribute to a wealth gap that follows them throughout their lifetimes. Persistent pay discrimination, often cloaked by employer-imposed pay secrecy policies, is one factor driving these wage gaps.

These pay gaps can be addressed only if workers have the legal tools necessary to challenge discrimination and employers are provided with effective incentives and technical assistance to comply with the law.

The Paycheck Fairness Act updates and strengthens the Equal Pay Act of 1963 to ensure that it provides robust protection against sex-based pay discrimination. Among other provisions, this comprehensive bill:

- ends secrecy around pay by barring retaliation against workers who voluntarily discuss or disclose their wages, and requiring employers to report pay data to the EEOC;

- prohibits employers from relying on salary history in determining future pay, so that pay discrimination does not follow women from job to job;

- closes loopholes that have allowed employers to pay women less than men for the same work without any important business justification related to the job;

- ensures women can receive the same robust remedies for sex-based pay discrimination that are currently available to those subjected to discrimination based on race and ethnicity; and provides much needed training and technical assistance, as well as data collection and research.

The COVID-19 pandemic and systemic racism have exposed how the work performed primarily by women, and particularly Black and brown women, has long been and continues to be undervalued and underpaid, even as the rest of the country is newly recognizing the essential nature of this work. We cannot build back an economy that works for everyone without ensuring that all women can work with equality, safety, and dignity, starting with pay equity. Passing the Paycheck Fairness Act would mark a vitally important step toward ensuring this becomes reality.

We urge you to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act without harmful amendments that weaken its critical protections. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Joi Chaney at the National Urban League.

Thank you for your consideration,

MARC H. MORIAL,
President & CEO.

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to support the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

I have some important questions and simple answers.

First, do rent and food cost less for women than men?

The answer is no.

Do women work less hard than men?

Absolutely not.

Do children depend on the financial support of their mothers?

That answer is yes.

So should women make less money than men for doing equal work?

Obviously not.

Yet, for many reasons, women are paid an average of just 82 cents for every dollar paid to men—it is even lower for women of color—causing struggling families and eventually lower Social Security benefits and retirement savings for our grandmothers.

No wonder it is women and their children who are the majority of poor in this country.

As we emerge from a pandemic that has hit women workers the hardest, isn't it time for an economy that compensates women fairly for their work?

Of course it is.

This requires numerous actions, including making sure that women and girls have full access to healthcare, education, and financial resources; family-friendly workplaces; combating on-the-job sexual harassment and violence; making child and adult care more affordable; and raising the pay for minimum wage workers, two-thirds of whom are women.

Today, we can take a giant step toward this moral and legal imperative of closing the gender wage gap by passing the Paycheck Fairness Act and giving workers the tools to enforce the Equal Pay Act of 1963, that requires pay equity.

Isn't it time, Madam Speaker, that our mothers, daughters, and sisters get paid fairly for their hard day's work?

Of course.

That is my final question and final answer for today.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MEIJER) to speak on the amendment.

Mr. MEIJER. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2430 to extend the DEA's temporary authority to schedule fentanyl-related substances for 1 year.

Fentanyl is a deadly opioid that kills thousands of Americans annually. When the chemical formula of fentanyl is even slightly modified, creating a fentanyl analogue, these substances can become exponentially more lethal. These analogues have been a driving force behind the opioid epidemic that continues to plague our local communities.

The authority for the DEA to classify these analogues as schedule I substances is critical to law enforcement's ability to keep these drugs off our streets.

As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I recently joined my colleagues on a trip to assess the ongoing crisis on our southern border.

Fentanyl has continued to move into our country through our ports of entry, mainly through our border with Mexico. On the trip, we spoke with law enforcement officials who detailed the challenges posed by transnational criminal organizations, including drug traffickers, who are attempting to take advantage of the current crisis.

With already limited border security resources being diverted to deal with the humanitarian crisis, drug smugglers are continuing their attempts to push dangerous substances, including fentanyl, into the United States. In the first quarter of 2021, the seizure of fentanyl at our southwestern border by CBP has increased by a staggering 233 percent from the first quarter of 2020.

At a time when our country is experiencing a border crisis and an opioid crisis, we need to be enacting policies that strengthen law enforcement and enhance public safety instead of empowering bad actors who are continuing to put our communities at risk.

If we fail to act on this commonsense extension before the upcoming May 6 deadline, we will be taking away a major tool that law enforcement needs to keep our communities safe.

With fentanyl analogues no longer properly scheduled, drug smugglers will continue and remain emboldened and even expand their attempts to move fentanyl into the United States. This would exacerbate two already unsustainable crises: the ongoing surge at our southern border and the opioid epidemic that has devastated lives of Americans across the country.

Madam Speaker, for that reason, I urge defeat of the previous question.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I have no other speakers, so I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1600

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

And just to speak a little further on the amendment that has been offered if the previous question is defeated, H.R. 2430; like so many Members, I too have traveled down to the border. The difference is I have done that many times over the last 12 years.

It has never been this bad; and I need to emphasize that. I encourage the President and the Vice President to visit the southern border, come to the Lower Rio Grande Valley and see for themselves, firsthand, just how bad this crisis is.

And then back to the business at hand. I want to be very clear about the two bills included in today's rule. Wage discrimination has no place in any society, and it is currently illegal in the United States of America.

The path Congress must take is to not increase opportunities for trial lawyers, but to continue its focus on strong economic policy that actually expands opportunities for all Americans.

Prior to the pandemic, nearly 75 million women participated in the workforce, more than at any other time in history. A robust and resilient economy will provide the jobs, provide the wages and the wage gains that Americans expect and deserve.

Also, workplace violence is a threat that no American should have to face. The threat is particularly high for healthcare workers and social service workers. These workers dedicate their lives to taking care of others, and they deserve to be taken care of in return.

While I support the goal of H.R. 1195, I believe it would benefit from further discussion to ensure that the timeline for issuing a rule and developing workplace violence prevention will produce the most effective and safe outcome for American workers.

Madam Speaker, I urge a "no" vote on the previous question, "no" on the underlying measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I include in the RECORD a March 25 New York Times article entitled "In 25 Years, the Pay Gap Has Shrunk by Just 8 Cents."

[From the New York Times, Mar. 25, 2021]

IN 25 YEARS, THE PAY GAP HAS SHRUNK BY
JUST 8 CENTS

(By Francesca Donner and Emma Goldberg)
Megan Rapinoe is a two-time World Cup champion who has played to sold-out stadiums around the globe; what she has in common with nearly every American woman is that she's underpaid.

On Wednesday, Ms. Rapinoe testified during a hearing held by Representative Carolyn B. Maloney to examine economic harm caused by gender inequalities, particularly for women of color.

Today is All Women's Equal Pay Day, Ms. Maloney said. But it's not Equal Pay Day for all women.

Black women would have to work until Aug. 3, 2021, to earn what men made in 2020. For Latina women, the date doesn't come until Oct. 21.

"This is a disgrace," Ms. Maloney said. "And it has long-term consequences for women and families."

Wage discrimination isn't limited to any one sector or income level.

Take Ms. Rapinoe, whose fight for equal pay has become something of a calling card for the U.S. women's team, and who played a central role in the team's lawsuit on unequal pay filed in 2019.

"One cannot simply outperform inequality," she said. "Or be excellent enough to escape discrimination."

If it can happen to me, she said, "it can—and it does—happen to every person marginalized by gender."

In Her Words looked at the history of Equal Pay Day, the reasons for the wage gap and what can be done to close it.

It's a symbolic day that illustrates how far into the current year American women would need to work to earn what their male counterparts earned last year. Put another way, because there is a disparity in what women and men are paid, women would need to work around 448 days to earn what men earn in just 365 days.

Race plays a part, too: For Black and Hispanic women, the numbers are worse. For Asian women, the numbers skew a bit better.

Estimates vary on how much the wage gap will cost an American woman over the

course of her career. The National Women's Law Center puts it at \$406,280 in lost income on average, but that number can top \$1 million for Hispanic women and is just shy of \$1 million for Black and Native American women.

How did it become a thing?

Equal Pay Day was established in 1996 by the National Committee on Pay Equity. Today marks the 25th. But debates around pay equity date back much further than that.

Carolyn York, secretary-treasurer of the National Committee on Pay Equity, pointed out in an email that in 1942, as huge numbers of women began replacing men in the work force, the National War Labor Board urged employers to make "adjustments which equalize wage or salary rates paid to females with the rates paid to males for comparable quality and quantity of work on the same or similar operations." But two decades on, in the 1960s, women were still earning only around 59 cents for every dollar a man made.

Do other countries have a gender wage gap?

Of course they do. According to this O.E.C.D. study, the United States falls behind Canada and ahead of Mexico. In addition to Canada, other countries that have a smaller pay gap than the United States are Romania, Colombia, Belgium, Costa Rica, Denmark, Norway . . . the list goes on. And on.

Has the pay gap narrowed over time?

Yes, but not by much. We're talking pennies. This year, it's estimated that American women will earn around 82 cents for every dollar that a man earns. A decade ago in 2011, it was 77 cents. In 1996, the first "official" Equal Pay Day, it was around 74 cents. And this top-line number doesn't account for differences in earnings among different racial groups.

How is the wage gap number calculated?

The pay gap refers to the ratio of female to male median annual earnings for full-time workers. Think of it as a fraction: The numerator is the difference between male and female median earnings, and the denominator is male median earnings. The actual number might look different depending on the source it's coming from, because some sources factor in characteristics like age, family size, education level and industry.

"We treat this issue as if you could summarize it in one number," said Claudia Goldin, an economics professor at Harvard University. "It's the headline," not really the full picture.

Are there jobs where women are better paid than men?

Not according to C. Nicole Mason, president of the Institute for Women's Policy Research. When men enter female-dominated sectors like nursing or education, the job begins paying more, she explained. But the inverse is not true: "When women enter male-dominated spaces, they don't get paid more than men."

How long will it take to close the pay gap if we do nothing about it?

Mark your calendars for 2059; if current trends continue, the gender wage gap is expected to close in a mere 38 years. For Black and Hispanic women, the deadline is a whole century away. If we do nothing, "my daughter, and daughter's daughter, will not see pay equity in their lives," Dr. Mason said.

So what exactly explains the gap?

There are many factors at play, according to the American Association of University Women. One of them is that the fields in which women dominate tend to pay less than fields dominated by men. This is irrespective of education or skill required.

The "motherhood penalty" also complicates the wage gap. Moms are less likely

to be hired, they receive lower salaries when they are, and are less likely to be tapped on the shoulder for promotion. (Ironic given research suggests moms are some of the most productive employees.)

And women work around two-thirds of the low-paying jobs in the United States; jobs that not only put workers at an economic disadvantage, but also tend to be more unstable.

There is also “invisible labor”—things like caregiving responsibilities and household chores—that women do in addition to their full-time work. “Women perform up to 30 percent more unpaid labor,” Dr. Mason said. Not to put too fine a point upon it, but “unpaid labor is unpaid.” And it’s very hard—if not impossible—to do both your job and take care of the household at the same time.

There’s also good old-fashioned sexism at play: Even when men and women are performing the exact same jobs, women tend to receive less compensation thanks to overt or unconscious biases, as well as stereotypes that make it more difficult for women to negotiate.

The pay gap is caused by a “layering effect” of all of these things, said Kimberly Churches, the CEO of the American Association of University Women. Ultimately, “this really is how we value women and how we value women of color in our society,” she said.

Did Covid make it worse?

In a year of devastating job loss, especially for women—hence the talk of a “she-cession”—the Institute for Women’s Policy Research released a piece of research that seemed, on its face, like good news. In 2020, it found the weekly gender wage gap for full-time workers shrunk to 17.7 percent from 18.5 percent. Seems positive, right? Not so fast.

As Ms. Goldin of Harvard explained, if the female labor force is reduced, but most of those reductions are from the bottom part of distribution (restaurant servers and retail workers, for instance), then women’s wages relative to men’s will rise.

This manifests as an overall rise in women’s wages. And that’s what happened here.

But underneath the top-line number, Dr. Mason pointed out, many, many lower-paid female workers are struggling.

What should companies do about it?

Closing the wage gap demands an investment of time and resources.

First, companies can audit workers’ pay and collect data to determine the levels of disparity between their male and female workers, said Serena Fong, a vice president at Catalyst. Salesforce, for example, committed to reviewing all its workers’ salaries in 2015, and over the following years spent more than \$9 million on adjustments to give women equal pay.

Salary bands, which give the range of pay for a given role, can also help level the playing field between male and female workers in salary negotiations. (Though broadly speaking, a wide salary band can provide “too much range to pay people unequally,” Dr. Mason said.)

And governments?

The Equal Pay Act, passed nearly 60 years ago, made it illegal to discriminate by sex in setting wages. But in practice, it can be hard for women to know whether they’re actually being paid equally. It’s not common to ask your colleagues what they make while you’re chatting by the water cooler.

In the last decade, more than a dozen states and the District of Columbia have adopted legislation prohibiting pay secrecy in the workplace. Still, a 2017-18 survey found that nearly half of fulltime workers were discouraged or prohibited from talking about their pay, meaning more legislation and enforcement is needed.

Ms. Churches also supports passing the Paycheck Fairness Act at a federal level, “so we can ban the use of salary history questions in the hiring process.” Such questions “just compound women’s lack of earnings going forward as they negotiate their salaries.”

And individuals?

Ask your colleagues how much they make, as awkward as that may sound.

Negotiation is also key. Research shows that women who consistently negotiate their salaries make more than \$1 million more over the course of their lifetimes, compared with those who don’t. But of course, Covid hasn’t helped: A new survey from Ann Elizabeth Konkel of Indeed suggests women feel even more uncomfortable asking for a raise or promotion than they did prepandemic.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, on the anniversary of Women’s Equal Pay Day, U.S. women’s soccer player Megan Rapinoe, in a congressional hearing said: “One cannot simply outperform inequality.”

Wage discrimination isn’t limited to any one sector or income level, and Congress must act to stop it.

Mr. Speaker, the importance of this issue is really about the proper enforcement of a bill that was first enacted in 1963. We generally agree on the importance of that legislation.

Where we disagree is enforcement. And we have had years to see what the proper disincentives are and incentives for proper behavior when it comes to protecting women in the workforce, and on the second bill—predominantly women—but people who work in vulnerable positions where they are subject to greater violence.

On pay equity, we look at States like California where I am from, and we can see that our laws, our aggressive laws have worked, at least to help with the pay equity situation. Who can deny, in our lifetimes, the benefit to the U.S. economy, to all of us, for having women in the workforce? We should be able to compensate that benefit that we have all gotten.

As a survivor of cancer, I have been taken by how many young women went into the medical profession, and they helped to develop the medicine that has saved my life, a disease that, 15 years ago, at stage IV, when I was diagnosed, there was little that could be done to extend people’s lives. That research came from brilliant people, many of them women. Why would I want to inhibit or disincentivize any young person, any woman, any young woman from going into that field?

I know that my friend from Texas knows this, we want the best and the brightest to help with our medical challenges, irrespective of what their background is or what their sex is.

Mr. Speaker, every day we wait to pass these bills, healthcare workers are being harmed and families are going deeper and deeper into poverty. Our inequality issues get worse, not better. We should not waste another moment.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on the rule and the previous question.

The material previously referred to by Mr. BURGESS is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 303

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 8. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 2430) to amend the Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act to extend for one year the temporary order for fentanyl-related substances. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy & Commerce; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 9. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 2430.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

UNITED STATES ANTI-DOPING AGENCY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 172) to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 381, nays 37, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 99]

YEAS—381

Adams	Bentz	Brownley
Aguilar	Bera	Buchanan
Allred	Bergman	Buck
Amodei	Beyer	Bucshon
Armstrong	Bice (OK)	Budd
Arrington	Bilirakis	Burgess
Auchincloss	Bishop (GA)	Bush
Axne	Blumenauer	Bustos
Bacon	Blunt Rochester	Butterfield
Baird	Bonamici	Calvert
Balderson	Bost	Cammack
Banks	Bourdeaux	Carbajal
Barr	Bowman	Cárdenas
Barragán	Boyle, Brendan	Carl
Bass	F.	Carson
Beatty	Brown	Carter (GA)

Carter (TX) Hinson
 Cartwright Hollingsworth
 Case Horsford
 Casten Houlihan
 Castor (FL) Hoyer
 Castro (TX) Hudson
 Chabot Huffman
 Cheney Huizenga
 Chu Issa
 Cicilline Jackson Lee
 Clark (MA) Jacobs (CA)
 Clarke (NY) Jacobs (NY)
 Cleaver Jayapal
 Clyburn Jeffries
 Cohen Johnson (GA)
 Cole Johnson (LA)
 Connolly Johnson (OH)
 Cooper Johnson (SD)
 Correa Johnson (TX)
 Courtney Jones
 Craig Jordan
 Crawford Joyce (OH)
 Crenshaw Joyce (PA)
 Crist Kahele
 Crow Kaptur
 Cuellar Katko
 Curtis Keating
 Davids (KS) Keller
 Davis, Danny K. Kelly (IL)
 Dean Kelly (MS)
 DeFazio Kelly (PA)
 DeGette Khanna
 DeLauro Kildee
 DelBene Kilmer
 Delgado Kim (CA)
 Demings Kim (NJ)
 DeSaulnier Kind
 Deutch Kinzinger
 Diaz-Balart Kirkpatrick
 Dingell Krishnamoorthi
 Doggett Kuster
 Donalds Kustoff
 Doyle, Michael LaHood
 F. LaMalfa
 Dunn Lamb
 Emmer Lamborn
 Escobar Langevin
 Eshoo Larsen (WA)
 Espallat Ruiz
 Estes Latta
 Evans LaTurner
 Feenstra Lawrence
 Ferguson Lawson (FL)
 Fischbach Lee (CA)
 Fitzgerald Lee (NV)
 Fitzpatrick Leger Fernandez
 Fleischmann Lesko
 Fletcher Letlow
 Fortenberry Levin (CA)
 Foster Levin (MI)
 Foxx Lieu
 Frankel, Lois Long
 Franklin, C. Lowenthal
 Scott Lucas
 Fulcher Luetkemeyer
 Gallagher Luria
 Gallego Lynch
 Garamendi Mace
 Garbarino Malinowski
 Garcia (CA) Malliotakis
 Garcia (IL) Maloney,
 Garcia (TX) Carolyn B.
 Gibbs Maloney, Sean
 Gimenez Manning
 Golden Matsui
 Gomez McBath
 Gonzales, Tony McCarthy
 Gonzalez (OH) McCaul
 Gonzalez, Vicente McClain
 Gooden (TX) McCollum
 Gotthelmer McEachin
 Granger McGovern
 Graves (LA) McKinley
 Graves (MO) McNeerney
 Meeks
 Green, Al (TX) Meijer
 Griffith Meng
 Grijalva Meuser
 Guest Mfume
 Guthrie Miller (WV)
 Hagedorn Miller-Meeks
 Harder (CA) Moolenaar
 Harshbarger Mooney
 Hartzler Moore (AL)
 Hayes Moore (UT)
 Hern Moore (WI)
 Herrera Beutler Morelle
 Higgins (NY) Moulton
 Hill Mrvan Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thompson (PA)

Mullin
 Murphy (FL)
 Murphy (NC)
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Neguse
 Nehls
 Newhouse
 Newman
 Norcross
 Nunes
 O'Halleran
 Obernolte
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Omar
 Owens
 Palazzo
 Pallone
 Palmer
 Panetta
 Pappas
 Pascrell
 Payne
 Pence
 Perlmutter
 Perry
 Peters
 Pfluger
 Phillips
 Pingree
 Pocan
 Porter
 Posey
 Pressley
 Price (NC)
 Quigley
 Raskin
 Reed
 Reschenthaler
 Rice (NY)
 Rice (SC)
 Rodgers (WA)
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Ross
 Rouzer
 Roybal-Allard
 Ruiz
 Rush
 Rutherford
 Ryan
 Salazar
 Sanchez
 Sarbanes
 Scalise
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schneider
 Schrader
 Schrier
 Schweikert
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, Austin
 Scott, David
 Sessions
 Sewell
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Simpson
 Sires
 Slotkin
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Smucker
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Spartz
 Speier
 Stanton
 Stauber
 Steel
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Stevens
 Stewart
 Stivers
 Strickland
 Suozzi
 Swalwell
 Takano
 Taylor
 Tenney
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thompson (PA)

Tiffany
 Timmons
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres (NY)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Turner
 Underwood
 Upton
 Valadao
 Van Drew
 Aderholt
 Allen
 Babin
 Biggs
 Bishop (NC)
 Boebert
 Brooks
 Burchett
 Cline
 Cloud
 Comer
 Davidson
 DesJarlais

Van Duyne
 Vargas
 Vela
 Velázquez
 Wagner
 Walberg
 Walorski
 Waltz
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)

Welch
 Wenstrup
 Westernman
 Wexton
 Wild
 Williams (GA)
 Williams (TX)
 Wilson (FL)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Yarmuth
 Young
 Zeldin

NAYS—37

Duncan
 Gaetz
 Gohmert
 Good (VA)
 Gosar
 Green (TN)
 Greene (GA)
 Grothman
 Harris
 Herrell
 Hice (GA)
 Higgins (LA)
 Jackson
 Loudermilk
 Mann
 Massie
 Mast
 McClintock
 Miller (IL)
 Norman
 Rose
 Rosendale
 Roy
 Steube

NOT VOTING—11

Brady
 Cawthorn
 Clyde
 Costa
 Davis, Rodney
 Fallon
 Himes
 Lofgren
 McHenry
 Ruppersberger
 Veasey

□ 1641

Messrs. FULCHER, AMODEI, and ARRINGTON changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

Mr. ROSE changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)	Lowenthal	Slotkin
Babin (Nehls)	(Beyer)	(Stevens)
Cárdenas	Mfume (Raskin)	Stefanik
(Gomez)	Moore (WI)	(Tennet)
Crenshaw (Nehls)	(Beyer)	Steube
Greene (GA)	Moulton (Kahele)	(Timmons)
(Gosar)	Napolitano	Trahan (Lynch)
Grijalva (García)	(Correa)	Wasserman
(IL)	Neal (Lynch)	Schultz (Soto)
Jayapal (Raskin)	Norman (Rice)	Watson Coleman
Johnson (TX)	(SC)	(Pallone)
(Jeffries)	Omar (Pressley)	Wilson (FL)
Keating (Clark)	Payne (Pallone)	(Hayes)
(MA)	Porter (Wexton)	Wilson (SC)
Lawson (FL)	Rush	(Timmons)
(Evans)	(Underwood)	
Lieu (Beyer)	Sewell (DelBene)	

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALCEE HASTINGS

(Mr. DIAZ-BALART asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, it is my solemn duty to rise today on behalf of the Florida delegation as we continue to grieve the passing of our colleague and our friend, Alcee Hastings of Florida.

Congressman Alcee Hastings was more than a colleague; he was a dear friend to me and to my family. Madam Speaker, my brother, Congressman Lincoln Diaz-Balart, served with Alcee Hastings on the Rules Committee; and, through him, I also developed a very special relationship.

Along with Congresswomen Carrie Meek and Corrine Brown, Alcee Hastings was the first African American from Florida to serve in Congress after more than 100 years.

Alcee Hastings dedicated his life to serving others and to fighting for human rights. You know, Alcee lived by Dr. Martin Luther King's phrase, “An injustice anywhere is an affront to justice everywhere.”

Alcee Hastings' brilliance, his perseverance, and his charisma, along with his ceaseless fight for human rights, built a lasting and meaningful legacy. And even during that last battle of his, the one that ultimately took his life, he continued to serve with passion, with great heart, and always with that special spark that he had, that smile of his that he always had.

We are truly heartbroken by his passing, and we offer our deepest condolences and prayers to his family and all of those who knew and loved him.

Florida and Congress really lost a trailblazer.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to thank one very special person, Lale Morrison, Alcee's longtime chief of staff, for her service to the people of Florida and equally as important, her dedication and her friendship to Alcee Hastings.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR).

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from Florida for yielding.

It is with great sadness that I rise on behalf of the Florida delegation, and you can see we have many new Floridians in our delegation today because we had such great love, respect, and admiration for our colleague Congressman Hastings.

Congressman Hastings was a towering figure who always stood up for the little guy. He fought for civil rights. He fought for voting rights. He fought for affordable healthcare. He was tireless.

Now, Alcee did not suffer fools or malarky, and he was unafraid to point it out. And he did so with relish. And let that be a great example to all of us who have this tremendous responsibility to stand up every day for the people who send us here, especially the voiceless and the vulnerable.

But Alcee served with great intellect, with passion, with flare. He loved the House of Representatives. He loved the State of Florida. He wanted it to be better, and he worked on that every single day. But I think we are all better for his service and his example.

Madam Speaker, I think Alcee would have appreciated the fact that you are in bright orange today, the color of his beloved Florida A&M University. Go Rattlers.

On behalf of the great State of Florida, we also send our love, prayers, and condolences to Lale, his chief of staff, his entire team, his family, his devoted friends, and I would respectfully ask that we recognize his life with a moment of silence, but ask and invite you

all to join us in a celebration of his life that we intend to hold next week.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE HONORABLE ALCEE L. HASTINGS

The SPEAKER. The Chair asks all those present in the Chamber, as well as Members and staff throughout the Capitol, to please rise for a moment of silence in remembrance of the late Honorable Alcee L. Hastings of the great State of Florida.

FOOD ALLERGY SAFETY, TREATMENT, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 578) to improve the health and safety of Americans living with food allergies and related disorders, including potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis, food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, and eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 11, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 100]

YEAS—415

Adams	Bush	Dean
Aderholt	Bustos	DeFazio
Aguilar	Butterfield	DeGette
Allen	Calvert	DeLauro
Allred	Cammack	DelBene
Amodei	Carbajal	Demings
Armstrong	Cárdenas	Demings
Arrington	Carl	DeSaulnier
Auchincloss	Carson	DesJarlais
Axne	Carter (GA)	Deutch
Babin	Carter (TX)	Diaz-Balart
Bacon	Cartwright	Dingell
Baird	Case	Doggett
Balderson	Casten	Donalds
Banks	Castor (FL)	Doyle, Michael
Barr	Castro (TX)	F.
Barragán	Chabot	Duncan
Bass	Chu	Dunn
Beatty	Cicilline	Emmer
Bentz	Clark (MA)	Escobar
Bera	Clarke (NY)	Eshoo
Bergman	Cleaver	Española
Beyer	Cline	Estes
Bice (OK)	Cloud	Evans
Bilirakis	Clyburn	Fallon
Bishop (GA)	Clyde	Feenstra
Bishop (NC)	Cohen	Ferguson
Blumenauer	Cole	Fischbach
Blunt Rochester	Comer	Fitzgerald
Bonamici	Connolly	Fitzpatrick
Bost	Cooper	Fleischmann
Bourdeaux	Correa	Fletcher
Bowman	Costa	Fortenberry
Boyle, Brendan	Courtney	Foster
F.	Craig	Fox
Brooks	Crawford	Frankel, Lois
Brown	Crenshaw	Franklin, C.
Brownley	Crist	Scott
Buchanan	Crow	Fulcher
Buck	Cuellar	Gaetz
Bucshon	Curtis	Gallagher
Budd	Davidson	Gallagher
Burchett	Davis, Danny K.	Garamendi
Burgess	Davis, Rodney	Garbarino

Garcia (CA)	Lieu	Ruppersberger
Garcia (IL)	Lofgren	Rush
Garcia (TX)	Long	Rutherford
Gibbs	Loudermilk	Ryan
Jimenez	Lowenthal	Salazar
Gohmert	Lucas	Sánchez
Golden	Luetkemeyer	Sarbanes
Gomez	Luria	Scalise
Gonzales, Tony	Lynch	Scanlon
Gonzalez (OH)	Mace	Schakowsky
Gonzalez, Vicente	Malinowski	Schiff
Gooden (TX)	Malliotakis	Schneider
Gosar	Maloney, Carolyn B.	Schrader
Gotthelmer	Maloney, Sean	Schrier
Granger	Mann	Schweikert
Graves (LA)	Manning	Scott (VA)
Graves (MO)	Mast	Scott, Austin
Green (TN)	Matsui	Scott, David
Green, Al (TX)	McBath	Sessions
Griffith	McCarthy	Sewell
Grijalva	McCaul	Sherman
Grothman	McClain	Sherrill
Guest	McClintock	Simpson
Guthrie	McCollum	Sires
Hagedorn	McEachin	Slotkin
Harder (CA)	McGovern	Smith (MO)
Harris	McHenry	Smith (NE)
Harshbarger	McKinley	Smith (NJ)
Hartzler	McNerney	Smith (WA)
Hayes	Meeks	Smucker
Hern	Meijer	Soto
Herrera Beutler	Meng	Spanberger
Hice (GA)	Meuser	Spartz
Higgins (NY)	Mfume	Speier
Hill	Miller (IL)	Stanton
Himes	Miller (WV)	Stauber
Hinson	Miller-Meeks	Steel
Hollingsworth	Moolenaar	Stefanik
Horsford	Mooney	Steil
Houlihan	Moore (AL)	Steube
Hoyer	Moore (UT)	Stevens
Hudson	Moore (WI)	Stewart
Huffman	Morelle	Stivers
Huizenga	Moulton	Strickland
Issa	Mrvan	Suozzi
Jackson	Mullin	Swalwell
Jackson Lee	Murphy (FL)	Takano
Jacobs (CA)	Murphy (NC)	Taylor
Jacobs (NY)	Nadler	Tenney
Jayapal	Napolitano	Thompson (CA)
Jeffries	Neal	Thompson (MS)
Johnson (GA)	Neguse	Thompson (PA)
Johnson (LA)	Nehls	Tiffany
Johnson (OH)	Newhouse	Timmons
Johnson (SD)	Newman	Titus
Johnson (TX)	Norcross	Tlaib
Jones	Norman	Tonko
Jordan	Nunes	Torres (CA)
Joyce (OH)	O'Halleran	Torres (NY)
Joyce (PA)	Obernolte	Trahan
Kahele	Ocasio-Cortez	Trone
Kaptur	Omar	Turner
Katko	Owens	Underwood
Keating	Palazzo	Upton
Keller	Pallone	Valadao
Kelly (IL)	Palmer	Van Drew
Kelly (MS)	Panetta	Van Dine
Kelly (PA)	Pappas	Vargas
Khanna	Pascarella	Veasey
Kildee	Payne	Vela
Kilmer	Pence	Velázquez
Kim (CA)	Perlmutter	Wagner
Kim (NJ)	Perry	Walberg
Kind	Peters	Walorski
Kinzinger	Pfleger	Walt
Kirkpatrick	Phillips	Wasserman
Krishnamoorthi	Pingree	Schultz
Kuster	Pocan	Waters
Kustoff	Porter	Watson Coleman
LaHood	Posey	Weber (TX)
LaMalfa	Pressley	Webster (FL)
Lamb	Price (NC)	Welch
Lamborn	Quigley	Wenstrup
Langevin	Raskin	Westerman
Larsen (WA)	Reed	Wexton
Larson (CT)	Rice (NY)	Wild
Latta	Rice (SC)	Williams (GA)
LaTurner	Rodgers (WA)	Williams (TX)
Lawrence	Rogers (AL)	Wilson (FL)
Lawson (FL)	Rogers (KY)	Wilson (SC)
Lee (CA)	Rose	Wittman
Lee (NV)	Rosendale	Womack
Leger Fernandez	Ross	Yarmuth
Letlow	Rouzer	Young
Levin (CA)	Roybal-Allard	Zeldin
Levin (MI)	Ruiz	

NAYS—11

Biggs	Good (VA)	Lesko
Boebert	Greene (GA)	Massie
Cheney	Herrell	Roy
Davidson	Higgins (LA)	

NOT VOTING—3

Brady	Cawthorn	Reschenthaler
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□ 1718

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)	Lowenthal	Sewell (DelBene)
Babin (Nehls)	(Beyer)	Slotkin
Cárdenas	Mfume (Raskin)	(Stevens)
(Gomez)	Moore (WI)	Stefanik
Crenshaw (Nehls)	(Beyer)	(Tenney)
Greene (GA)	Moulton (Kahele)	Steube
(Gosar)	Napolitano	(Timmons)
Grijalva (Garcia)	(Correa)	Trahan (Lynch)
(IL)	Neal (Lynch)	Wasserman
Jayapal (Raskin)	Norman (Rice)	Schultz (Soto)
Johnson (TX)	(SC)	Watson Coleman
(Jeffries)	Omar (Pressley)	(Pallone)
Keating (Clark)	Payne (Pallone)	Wilson (FL)
(MA)	Porter (Wexton)	(Hayes)
Lawson (FL)	Ruppersberger	Wilson (SC)
(Evans)	(Raskin)	(Timmons)
Lieu (Beyer)	Rush	
	(Underwood)	

ADVANCING EDUCATION ON BIOSIMILARS ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 164) to educate health care providers and the public on biosimilar biological products, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 412, nays 8, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 101]

YEAS—412

Adams	Blumenauer	Carter (TX)
Aderholt	Blunt Rochester	Cartwright
Aguilar	Bonamici	Case
Allen	Bost	Casten
Allred	Bourdeaux	Castor (FL)
Amodei	Bowman	Castro (TX)
Armstrong	Boyle, Brendan	Chabot
Auchincloss	F.	Cheney
Axne	Brown	Chu
Babin	Brownley	Cicilline
Bacon	Buchanan	Clark (MA)
Baird	Buck	Clarke (NY)
Balderson	Bucshon	Cleaver
Banks	Budd	Cline
Barr	Burchett	Cloud
Barragán	Burgess	Clyburn
Bass	Bush	Cohen
Beatty	Bustos	Cole
Bentz	Butterfield	Comer
Bera	Calvert	Connolly
Bergman	Cammack	Cooper
Beyer	Carbajal	Correa
Bice (OK)	Cárdenas	Costa
Bilirakis	Carl	Courtney
Bishop (GA)	Carson	Craig
Bishop (NC)	Carter (GA)	Crawford

Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxy
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Galego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga

Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kabele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCauley
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McKinney
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)

Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schradler
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stanton
Staubert
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Strickland
Suozi
Swalwell
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)

Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne

Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch

Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—8

Biggs
Brooks
Clyde

Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Massie

Mast
Roy

NOT VOTING—9

Arrington
Dunn
Brady

Cawthorn
Takano
Lucas

McEachin
Torres (NY)

□ 1749

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 101.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Babin (Nehls)
Cárdenas
(Gomez)
Crenshaw (Nehls)
Greene (GA)
(Gosar)
Grijalva (García (IL))
Jayapal (Raskin)
Johnson (TX)
(Jeffries)
Keating (Clark (MA))
Lawson (FL)
(Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)

Lowenthal
(Beyer)
Mfume (Raskin)
Moore (WI)
(Beyer)
Moulton (Kahale)
Napolitano
(Correa)
Neal (Lynch)
Norman (Rice (SC))
Omar (Pressley)
Payne (Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)
Ruppersberger
(Raskin)
Rush
(Underwood)

Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin
(Stevens)
Stefanik
(Tenney)
Steube
(Timmons)
Trahan (Lynch)
Wasserman
Schultz (Soto)
Pallone)
Watson Coleman
Wilson (FL)
(Hayes)
Wilson (SC)
(Timmons)

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7, PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1195, WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION FOR HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICE WORKERS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 303) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1195) to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 208, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 102]

YEAS—217

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown
Brownley
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Galego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden

Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newman
Norcross

O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schradler
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozi
Swalwell
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—208

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks

Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brooks

Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)

Chabot	Higgins (LA)	Palazzo
Cheney	Hill	Palmer
Cline	Hinson	Pence
Cloud	Hollingsworth	Perry
Clyde	Hudson	Pfleger
Cole	Huizenga	Posey
Comer	Issa	Reed
Crawford	Jackson	Reschenthaler
Crenshaw	Jacobs (NY)	Rice (SC)
Curtis	Johnson (LA)	Rodgers (WA)
Davidson	Johnson (OH)	Rogers (AL)
Davis, Rodney	Johnson (SD)	Rogers (KY)
DesJarlais	Jordan	Rose
Diaz-Balart	Joyce (OH)	Rosendale
Donalds	Joyce (PA)	Rouzer
Duncan	Katko	Roy
Dunn	Keller	Rutherford
Emmer	Kelly (MS)	Salazar
Estes	Kelly (PA)	Scalise
Fallon	Kim (CA)	Schweikert
Feenstra	Kinzinger	Scott, Austin
Ferguson	Kustoff	Sessions
Fischbach	LaHood	Simpson
Fitzgerald	LaMalfa	Smith (MO)
Fitzpatrick	Lamborn	Smith (NE)
Fleischmann	Latta	Smith (NJ)
Fortenberry	LaTurner	Smucker
Fox	Lesko	Spartz
Franklin, C.	Letlow	Stauber
Scott	Long	Steel
Fulcher	Lucas	Stefanik
Gaetz	Luetkemeyer	Steube
Gallagher	Mace	Stewart
Garbarino	Malliotakis	Stivers
Garcia (CA)	Mann	Taylor
Gibbs	Massie	Tenney
Jimenez	Mast	Thompson (PA)
Gohmert	McCarthy	Tiffany
Gonzales, Tony	McCaul	Timmons
Gonzalez (OH)	McClain	Turner
Good (VA)	McClintock	Upton
Gooden (TX)	McHenry	Valadao
Gosar	McKinley	Van Drew
Granger	Meijer	Van Duyne
Graves (LA)	Meuser	Wagner
Graves (MO)	Miller (IL)	Walberg
Green (TN)	Miller (WV)	Walorski
Greene (GA)	Miller-Meeks	Waltz
Griffith	Moolenaar	Weber (TX)
Grothman	Mooney	Westerman
Guest	Moore (AL)	Williams (TX)
Guthrie	Moore (UT)	Wilson (SC)
Hagedorn	Mullin	Wittman
Harris	Murphy (NC)	Womack
Harshbarger	Nehls	Young
Hartzler	Newhouse	Zeldin
Hern	Norman	
Herrell	Nunes	
Herrera Beutler	Obernolte	
Hice (GA)	Owens	

NOT VOTING—4

Brady	Cawthorn
Budd	Loudermilk

□ 1819

Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. PALMER changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)	Lowenthal	Sewell (DelBene)
Babin (Nehls)	(Beyer)	Slotkin
Cárdenas	Mfume (Raskin)	(Stevens)
(Gomez)	Moore (WI)	Stefanik
Crenshaw (Nehls)	(Beyer)	(Tenney)
Greene (GA)	Moulton (Kahale)	Steube
(Gosar)	Napolitano	(Timmons)
Grijalva (Garcia)	(Correa)	Trahan (Lynch)
(IL))	Neal (Lynch)	Wasserman
Jayapal (Raskin)	Norman (Rice)	Schultz (Soto)
Johnson (TX)	(SC))	Watson Coleman
(Jeffries)	Omar (Pressley)	(Pallone)
Keating (Clark)	Payne (Pallone)	Wilson (FL)
(MA))	Porter (Wexton)	(Hayes)
Lawson (FL)	Ruppersberger	Wilson (SC)
(Evans)	(Raskin)	
Lieu (Beyer)	Rush	(Timmons)
	(Underwood)	

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 207, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 103]

YEAS—217

Adams	Gomez	O'Halleran
Aguilar	Gonzalez,	Ocasio-Cortez
Allred	Vicente	Omar
Auchincloss	Gottheimer	Pallone
Axne	Green, Al (TX)	Panetta
Barragán	Grijalva	Pappas
Bass	Harder (CA)	Pascarell
Beatty	Hayes	Payne
Bera	Higgins (NY)	Perlmutter
Beyer	Himes	Peters
Bishop (GA)	Horsford	Phillips
Blumenauer	Houlahan	Pingree
Blunt Rochester	Hoyer	Pocan
Bonamici	Huffman	Porter
Bourdeaux	Jackson Lee	Pressley
Bowman	Jacobs (CA)	Price (NC)
Boyle, Brendan	Jayapal	Quigley
F.	Jeffries	Raskin
Brown	Johnson (GA)	Rice (NY)
Brownley	Johnson (TX)	Ross
Bush	Jones	Roybal-Allard
Bustos	Kahale	Ruiz
Butterfield	Kaptur	Ruppersberger
Carbajal	Keating	Rush
Cárdenas	Kelly (IL)	Ryan
Carson	Khanna	Sánchez
Cartwright	Kildee	Sarbanes
Case	Kilmer	Scanlon
Casten	Kim (NJ)	Schakowsky
Castor (FL)	Kind	Schiff
Castro (TX)	Kirkpatrick	Schneider
Chu	Krishnamoorthi	Schrader
Cicilline	Kuster	Schrier
Clark (MA)	Lamb	Scott (VA)
Clarke (NY)	Langevin	Scott, David
Cleaver	Larsen (WA)	Sewell
Clyburn	Larson (CT)	Sherman
Cohen	Lawrence	Sherrill
Connolly	Lawson (FL)	Sires
Cooper	Lee (CA)	Slotkin
Correa	Lee (NV)	Smith (WA)
Costa	Leger Fernandez	Soto
Courtney	Levin (CA)	Spanberger
Craig	Levin (MI)	Speier
Crist	Lieu	Stanton
Crow	Lofgren	Stevens
Cuellar	Lowenthal	Strickland
Davids (KS)	Luria	Suozi
Davis, Danny K.	Lynch	Swalwell
Dean	Malinowski	Takano
DeFazio	Maloney,	Thompson (CA)
DeGette	Carolyn B.	Thompson (MS)
DeLauro	Maloney, Sean	Titus
DelBene	Manning	Tlaib
Delgado	Matsui	Tonko
Demings	McBath	Torres (CA)
DeSaulnier	McCollum	Torres (NY)
Deutch	McEachin	Trahan
Dingell	McGovern	Trone
Doggett	McNerney	Underwood
Doyle, Michael	Meeks	Vargas
F.	Meng	Veasey
Escobar	Mfume	Vela
Eshoo	Moore (WI)	Velázquez
Espallat	Morelle	Wasserman
Evans	Moulton	Schultz
Fletcher	Mrvan	Waters
Foster	Murphy (FL)	Watson Coleman
Frankel, Lois	Nadler	Welch
Gallego	Napolitano	Wexton
Garamendi	Neal	Wild
Garcia (IL)	Neguse	Williams (GA)
Garcia (TX)	Newman	Wilson (FL)
Golden	Norcross	Yarmuth

NAYS—207

Aderholt	Bacon	Bergman
Allen	Baird	Bice (OK)
Amodei	Balderson	Biggs
Armstrong	Banks	Bilirakis
Arrington	Barr	Bishop (NC)
Babin	Bentz	Boebert

Bost	Harris	Norman
Buchanan	Harshbarger	Nunes
Buck	Hartzler	Obernolte
Bucshon	Hern	Owens
Budd	Herrell	Palazzo
Burchett	Herrera Beutler	Palmer
Burgess	Hice (GA)	Pence
Calvert	Higgins (LA)	Perry
Cammack	Hill	Pfleger
Carl	Hinson	Posey
Carter (GA)	Hollingsworth	Reed
Carter (TX)	Hudson	Reschenthaler
Chabot	Huizenga	Rice (SC)
Cheney	Issa	Rodgers (WA)
Cline	Jackson	Rogers (AL)
Cloud	Jacobs (NY)	Rogers (KY)
Clyde	Johnson (LA)	Rose
Cole	Johnson (OH)	Rosendale
Comer	Johnson (SD)	Rouzer
Crawford	Jordan	Roy
Crenshaw	Joyce (OH)	Rutherford
Curtis	Joyce (PA)	Salazar
Davidson	Katko	Scalise
Davis, Rodney	Keller	Schweikert
DesJarlais	Kelly (MS)	Scott, Austin
Diaz-Balart	Kelly (PA)	Sessions
Donalds	Kim (CA)	Simpson
Duncan	Kinzinger	Smith (MO)
Dunn	Kustoff	Smith (NE)
Emmer	LaHood	Smith (NJ)
Estes	LaMalfa	Smucker
Fallon	Lamborn	Spartz
Feenstra	Latta	Stauber
Ferguson	LaTurner	Steel
Fischbach	Lesko	Stefanik
Fitzgerald	Letlow	Steil
Fitzpatrick	Long	Loudermilk
Fleischmann	McHenry	Lucas
Fortenberry	McKinley	Luetkemeyer
Fox	Meijer	Mace
Franklin, C.	Miller (IL)	Malliotakis
Scott	Miller (WV)	Mann
Fulcher	Miller-Meeks	Massie
Gaetz	Moolenaar	Mast
Gallagher	Mooney	McCarthy
Garbarino	Moore (AL)	McCaul
Garbarino	Moore (UT)	McClain
Garcia (CA)	Mullin	McClintock
Gibbs	Murphy (NC)	McHenry
Jimenez	Nehls	Meijer
Gohmert	Newhouse	Meuser
Gonzales, Tony		Miller (WV)
Gonzalez (OH)		Miller-Meeks
Good (VA)		Moolenaar
Gooden (TX)		Mooney
Gosar		Moore (AL)
Granger		Moore (UT)
Graves (LA)		Mullin
Graves (MO)		Murphy (NC)
Green (TN)		Nehls
Greene (GA)		Newhouse
Griffith		
Grothman		
Guest		
Guthrie		
Hagedorn		

NOT VOTING—5

Brady	Cawthorn	Webster (FL)
Brooks	Greene (GA)	

□ 1850

Mr. CARTER of Georgia changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the resolution was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)	Mfume (Raskin)	Slotkin
Babin (Nehls)	Moore (WI)	(Stevens)
Cárdenas	(Beyer)	Stefanik
(Gomez)	Moulton (Kahale)	(Tenney)
Crenshaw (Nehls)	Napolitano	Steube
Grijalva (Garcia)	(Correa)	(Timmons)
(IL))	Neal (Lynch)	Trahan (Lynch)
Jayapal (Raskin)	Norman (Rice)	Wasserman
Johnson (TX)	(SC))	Schultz (Soto)
(Jeffries)	Omar (Pressley)	Watson Coleman
Keating (Clark)	Payne (Pallone)	(Pallone)
(MA))	Porter (Wexton)	Wilson (FL)
Lawson (FL)	Ruppersberger	(Hayes)
(Evans)	(Raskin)	Wilson (SC)
Lieu (Beyer)	Rush	(Timmons)
	(Underwood)	
Lowenthal	Sewell (DelBene)	
(Beyer)		

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE ALCEE L. HASTINGS

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 312

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Alcee L. Hastings, a Representative from the State of Florida.

Resolved, That a committee of such Members of the House as the Speaker may designate, together with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of applicable accounts of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker on Tuesday, April 13, 2021:

H.R. 1868. An Act to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BEATTY). Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, and pursuant to House Resolution 312, the House stands adjourned until noon tomorrow, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Alcee L. Hastings.

Thereupon (at 6 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, April 15, 2021, at noon, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Alcee L. Hastings.

OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

“I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.”

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 117th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

Julia Letlow, Fifth District of Louisiana.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first quarter of 2021, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2021

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS, Mar. 25, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2021

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JERROLD NADLER, Apr. 12, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2021

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA, Apr. 7, 2021.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1002, the Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2021, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1215, the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1899, the Ensuring Compliance Against Drug Diversion Act of 2021, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-783. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Exemption from Registration for Certain Foreign Intermediaries (RIN: 3038-AE46) received March 17, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-784. A letter from the Director, Regulations Management Division, Rural Development Innovation Center, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Rural eConnectivity Program [RUS-20-Telecom-0023] (RIN: 0572-AC51) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-785. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Scott A. Howell, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-786. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Role of Supervisory Guidance (RIN: 3064-AF32) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-787. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Assessments, Amend-

ments To Address the Temporary Deposit Insurance Assessment Effects of the Optional Regulatory Capital Transitions for Implementing the Current Expected Credit Losses Methodology (RIN: 3064-AF65) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-788. A letter from the Compliance Specialist, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tip Regulations Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA): Delay of Effective Date (RIN: 1235-AA21) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-789. A letter from the Compliance Specialist, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Independent Contractor Status Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA): Delay of Effective Date (RIN: 1235-AA34) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-790. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program: Revisions to the Vaccine Injury Table; Delay of Effective Date (RIN: 0906-AB24) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-791. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Fraud And Abuse; Removal of Safe Harbor Protection for Rebates Involving Prescription Pharmaceuticals and Creation of New Safe Harbor Protection for Certain Point-of-Sale Reductions in Price on Prescription Pharmaceuticals and Certain Pharmacy Benefit Manager Service Fees; Delayed Effective Date (RIN: 0936-AA08) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-792. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's Major final rule — Emergency Broadband Benefit Program [WC Docket No: 20-445] received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-793. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Department's final rule — Health and Human Services Grants Regulation (RIN: 0991-AC16) received March 26, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-794. A letter from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting twelve (12) notifications of a vacancy, a designation of acting officer, a nomination, an action on nomination, and a discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-795. A letter from the Legal Tech, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Power Plant Demolition; Grand River, Grand Haven, MI [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0035] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public

Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-796. A letter from the Yeoman First Class Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile Markers 330.0-360.0, MS [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0036] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-797. A letter from the Legal Tech, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Old Fort Bayou, MS [Docket No.: USCG-2018-0968] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-798. A letter from the Yeoman First Class Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Security Zone; San Diego Bay, San Diego, CA [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0070] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-799. A letter from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary interim rule — Safety Zone; Narragansett Bay, Quonset, RI [Docket Number: USCG-2020-0639] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 23, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-800. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Waiver of the Water Quality Certification Requirements of Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act [Docket No.: RM20-18-000] received March 26, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-801. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Additional Relief for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Under Sec. 125 Cafeteria Plans [Notice 2021-15] received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-802. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Determination of Housing Cost Amounts Eligible for Exclusion for Deduction for 2021 [Notice 2021-18] received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-803. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Guidance on the Employee Retention Credit under Section 2301 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act [Notice 2021-20] received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk

for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H.R. 144. A bill to forestall the loss of research talent by establishing a temporary early career research fellowship program; with an amendment (Rept. 117-16). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Mr. BUCK):

H.R. 2497. A bill to establish the Amache National Historic Site in the State of Colorado as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. DEAN:

H.R. 2498. A bill to provide for the discharge of a private education loan in the case of death or total and permanent disability of a student obligor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself, Mr. BACON, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 2499. A bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employees duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, and Mr. OWENS):

H.R. 2500. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to assess the use of new technologies across reforestation activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 2501. A bill to require the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Federal Communications Commission to update the memorandum of understanding on spectrum coordination; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BROWNLEY (for herself, Ms. SPEIER, and Ms. STEFANKI):

H.R. 2502. A bill to direct the Secretaries concerned to take certain actions to reduce gender-related inequities in costs of uniforms to members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. BUSTOS (for herself, Mr. COLE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. WALORSKI, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. RUSH, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 2503. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish an

interagency council on social determinants of health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself, Mr. HICE of Georgia, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 2504. A bill to provide to localities injured by the cancellation or relocation, without good cause, of a scheduled organized professional major league team competition by a league of organized professional major league baseball teams, or a member of such league; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CLEAVER, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 2505. A bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to protect taxpayers from liability associated with the reclamation of surface coal mining operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Mr. LIEU):

H.R. 2506. A bill to counter Saudi Arabia's possible pursuit of weapons of mass destruction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself and Mr. GARAMENDI):

H.R. 2507. A bill to amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 with respect to pre-agreement costs of emergency watershed protection measures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 2508. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to optimize the sequestration of carbon and the reduction of net emissions through agricultural practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. MASSIE, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 2509. A bill to repeal the Military Selective Service Act, and thereby terminate the registration requirements of such Act and eliminate civilian local boards, civilian appeal boards, and similar local agencies of the Selective Service System; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 2510. A bill to regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DUNCAN (for himself, Mr. NORMAN, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ROY, Mr. CARL, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. STEUBE, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. BIGGS, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. BABIN, Mr. PERRY, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. OWENS, Mr. CLYDE, and Mr. GOOD of Virginia):

H.R. 2511. A bill to subject professional baseball clubs to the antitrust laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ESTES (for himself, Mr. MANN, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. COLE, and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 2512. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Chisholm

National Historic Trail and the Western National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois (for himself, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. JONES, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CARSON, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RUSH, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. MENG, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. SIRE, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. BARRAGAN):

H.R. 2513. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to public housing agencies and owners of other federally assisted housing to cover the costs of removing and replacing lead-based water service pipes for federally assisted housing projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SHERRILL, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 2514. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to encourage and promote the safe and efficient management, operation, and development of surface transportation systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. CHENEY, Ms. GRANGER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. COLE, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. COMER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. BOST, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. BALDERSON, and Mr. BUDD):

H.R. 2515. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to clarify ambiguous provisions, align the Act with relevant case law, reflect modern technologies, optimize interagency coordination, and facilitate a more efficient, effective, and timely environmental review process; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 2516. A bill to amend the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act to require Federal banking regulators to include a diversity and inclusion component in the Uniform Financial Institutions Rating System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York (for himself, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. GUTHRIE):

H.R. 2517. A bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mrs. FISCHBACH):

H.R. 2518. A bill to leverage incentives for the adoption of costly precision agriculture technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. JONES, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. BUSH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 2519. A bill to prohibit drilling in the outer Continental Shelf, to prohibit coal leases on Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. MANN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. DONALDS, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 2520. A bill to assess the impact of school closures due to COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE (for herself, Ms. DEAN, Mrs. LESKO, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Mrs. MCBATH):

H.R. 2521. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a pilot program to furnish doula services to veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:

H.R. 2522. A bill to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to establish the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness in the Río Grande del Norte National Monument and to modify the boundary of the Río Grande del Norte National Monument; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LEVIN of California (for himself and Mr. BOST):

H.R. 2523. A bill to amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to improve the COVID-19 Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance program, to make certain technical corrections to the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 2524. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a program to make grants to States to inform Medicaid enrollees, SNAP participants, and low-income residents of potential eligibility for the Lifeline program of the Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. MCBATH (for herself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 2525. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MCHENRY:

H.R. 2526. A bill to enhance oversight of the implementation of subtitles B and C of title III of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 2527. A bill to establish a grant program to provide certain eligible entities engaged in food recovery with grants to support certain costs; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. CLARKE of New York,

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. BOWMAN, and Mr. TORRES of New York):

H.R. 2528. A bill to establish the African Burial Ground International Memorial Museum and Educational Center in New York, New York, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO (for herself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SOTO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. VELA, Ms. GARCÍA of Texas, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. CORREA, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. CHU, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. SIRES, and Ms. ESCOBAR):

H.R. 2529. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a behavioral and mental health outreach and education strategy to reduce stigma associated with mental health among the Hispanic and Latino population, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. NEHLS (for himself and Mrs. LURIA):

H.R. 2530. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a study on radiation exposure relating to the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. LIEU, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. TAYLOR):

H.R. 2531. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide transportation to and from Department of Veterans Affairs facilities in connection with vocational rehabilitation or counseling; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 2532. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide credits for the production of renewable chemicals and investments in renewable chemical production facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. POSEY (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. MAST):

H.R. 2533. A bill to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 2534. A bill to provide incentives for agricultural producers to carry out climate stewardship practices, to provide for increased reforestation across the United States, to establish the Coastal and Estuary Resilience Grant Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAKANO (for himself, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. CHU, and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 2535. A bill to prohibit Federal funds from being used to violate the terms of the

Flores settlement agreement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 2536. A bill to provide relief for victims of hate crimes, advance the safety and well-being of immigrants and refugees, and fund improved law enforcement and prosecution official training; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. TLAIB:

H.R. 2537. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide a timetable for the collection of medical debt by debt collectors, to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prohibit consumer reporting agencies from issuing consumer reports containing information about debts related to medically necessary procedures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TRONE (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 2538. A bill to prioritize efforts of the Department of State to combat international trafficking in covered synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. EVANS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 2539. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants for hate crime prevention and prejudice reduction education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Mr. SCHNEIDER):

H.R. 2540. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to prohibit certain unfair credit practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. EVANS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 2541. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish grants to reduce the incidence of hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself, Mr. CARSON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. OMAR, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. COOPER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. ROSS, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin):

H.R. 2542. A bill to provide protection for survivors of domestic violence or sexual violence under the Fair Housing Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 2543. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to add additional demographic reporting requirements, to modify the goals of the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CARSON, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PALLONE,

Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 2544. A bill to regulate firearm silencers and firearm mufflers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WENSTRUP (for himself and Mr. MRVAN):

H.R. 2545. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the role of doctors of podiatric medicine in the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG:

H.R. 2546. A bill to provide for the continuation of higher education through the conveyance to the University of Alaska of certain public land in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H. Res. 310. A resolution electing a certain Member to a certain standing committee of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MCCARTHY:

H. Res. 311. A resolution electing a Member to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART:

H. Res. 312. A resolution expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Alcee L. Hastings; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. COSTA:

H. Res. 313. A resolution supporting the designation of April 18-24, 2021, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KELLER:

H. Res. 314. A resolution commending the men and women of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for their service and sacrifice amidst a growing crisis at the southern border; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KHANNA (for himself, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mr. BERA):

H. Res. 315. A resolution celebrating the 130th anniversary of the birth of Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. LOFGREN (for herself and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H. Res. 316. A resolution providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself and Mr. MEEKS):

H. Res. 317. A resolution condemning the ongoing genocide and crimes against humanity being committed against Uyghurs and members of other religious and ethnic minority groups by the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. BUDD, Mr. SCALISE, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. MANN, Mr. EMMER, Mrs. HINSON, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. PERRY, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. KELLER, Mrs.

RODGERS of Washington, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. POSEY, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BUCK, Mr. BENTZ, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. BABIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. COLE, Mr. STEWART, Mr. COMER, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. BANKS, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. BOST, Mr. HILL, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. ESTES, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. LUTKEMEYER, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CARL, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. OWENS, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. KUSTOFF, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. CURTIS):

H. Res. 318. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that clean water is a national priority and that the April 21, 2020, Navigable Waters Protection Rule should not be withdrawn or vacated; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BASS, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H. Res. 319. A resolution recognizing the Seventh Anniversary of the Chibok Girls Kidnapping by the Boko Haram Terrorist Organization and calling on the Government of Nigeria to redouble efforts to bring an end to the conflict in northeast and central Nigeria and to provide assistance to the victims; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 2497.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. DEAN:

H.R. 2498.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 2499.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 2500.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States;

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 2501.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 2502.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mrs. BUSTOS:

H.R. 2503.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 2504.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution provides Congress with the power to regulate commerce.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 2505.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 2506.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 2507.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 2508.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

[The Congress shall have Power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. DeFAZIO:

H.R. 2509.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 2510.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. DUNCAN:

H.R. 2511.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8: This legislation establishes that baseball is interstate commerce.

By Mr. ESTES:

H.R. 2512.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3, CLAUSE 2

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States

By Mr. GARCIA of Illinois:

H.R. 2513.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois:

H.R. 2514.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

article 1, section 8

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana:

H.R. 2515.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 2516.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Taxing and Spending Clause: Article 1, Section 8, clause 1—provides Congress authority to, inter alia, enact spending legislation.

Commerce Clause: Article 1, Section 8, clause 3—provides Congress with the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the states, including the use of the channels of interstate commerce, the instrumentalities of interstate commerce, or persons or things in interstate commerce.

Necessary and Proper Clause: Article 1, Section 8, clause 18—allows Congress the power to make all laws that are necessary and proper for executing its enumerated powers and all other powers vested by the Constitution in the U.S. Government.

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York:

H.R. 2517.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 2518.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 2519.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 2520.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE:

H.R. 2521.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:

H.R. 2522.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. LEVIN of California:

H.R. 2523.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 2524.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. MCBATH:

H.R. 2525.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8: Congress has the power “to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Native American tribes”

By Mr. MCHENRY:

H.R. 2526.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18:

Authority to create laws that are necessary and proper to carry out the laws of the land (Necessary and Proper Clause)

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 2527.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

Section 8—Powers of Congress. To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 2528.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clauses 1, 17, and 18.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO:

H.R. 2529.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, clause 1

By Mr. NEHLS:

H.R. 2530.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which states “[t]he Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States”.

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 2531.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.R. 2532.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 2533.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 2534.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 2535.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 2536.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. TLAIB:

H.R. 2537.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII, Clause XVIII

By Mr. TRONE:

H.R. 2538.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 2539.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 2540.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 2541.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 2542.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

[Page H12291]

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 2543.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 cl. 3, To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, Among the Several States, and with the Indian Tribes

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 2544.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 2545.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. YOUNG:

H.R. 2546.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 38: Ms. LETLOW.

H.R. 40: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. STEVENS, Mrs. TORRES of California, and Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 58: Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 82: Mr. SWALWELL and Mr. MRVAN.

H.R. 148: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 151: Mr. LAWSON of Florida and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 160: Mr. DUNN, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. GIMENEZ.

H.R. 218: Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 263: Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SMITH

of New Jersey, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 274: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 310: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 344: Mr. MRVAN and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 350: Mr. SOTO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
H.R. 366: Ms. SCANLON, Mr. RYAN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. MENG, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 379: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 431: Mr. TIMMONS and Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 432: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 448: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 472: Mr. BUCK and Mrs. MCCLAIN.
H.R. 503: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 539: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 541: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 542: Mr. CLEAVER and Ms. BUSH.
H.R. 596: Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 604: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 619: Mr. CARTER of Texas, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. GRANGER, and Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 634: Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 646: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 649: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 695: Mr. SMUCKER and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.
H.R. 697: Ms. CHU and Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 705: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 708: Mrs. KIM of California.
H.R. 738: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 748: Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BASS, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 762: Mrs. STEEL.
H.R. 763: Ms. NORTON and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 783: Mr. RYAN and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 789: Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 793: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 814: Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 815: Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 816: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 820: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 841: Mr. JACOBS of New York.
H.R. 852: Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 885: Mr. MORELLE and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 890: Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. SWALWELL, and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 892: Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 901: Mr. FEENSTRA.
H.R. 915: Mr. JACOBS of New York.
H.R. 917: Ms. Velázquez and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 922: Mr. BACON, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. KINZINGER.
H.R. 1057: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 1123: Mr. VAN DREW and Mr. MASSIE.
H.R. 1145: Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 1178: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 1202: Mr. GALLAGHER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 1210: Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 1231: Mr. FALLON and Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 1282: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 1284: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 1302: Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. FALLON, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 1346: Mr. BANKS and Mr. BARR.
H.R. 1352: Mr. BROWN, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. JEFFRIES.
H.R. 1361: Mr. POCAN and Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 1364: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. RYAN, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. PORTER, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 1381: Mr. LAHOOD.
H.R. 1396: Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 1417: Mr. FALLON.
H.R. 1434: Mr. MELJER.
H.R. 1466: Mr. NORMAN.
H.R. 1488: Ms. JACOBS of California and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 1491: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 1518: Mr. FERGUSON.

H.R. 1522: Mr. HOYER and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1528: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 1534: Mr. LATURNER, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, and Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 1542: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 1554: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 1568: Mr. FALLON and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 1601: Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 1607: Mrs. DEMINGS, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. SHERRILL, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. CASE, and Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 1627: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 1633: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 1636: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 1644: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. PETERS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 1655: Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 1677: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 1693: Mr. MELJER and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1712: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 1747: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 1764: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 1785: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. CARSON, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 1786: Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. JONES, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 1787: Mr. BROOKS.
H.R. 1788: Mr. CURTIS and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 1808: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1813: Mr. RYAN, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. CROW.
H.R. 1820: Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 1834: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 1843: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. BERA, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 1861: Mr. JACOBS of New York and Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 1901: Mr. SCHWEIKERT and Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 1910: Mr. BURGESS, Mr. DUNN, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mr. CURTIS.
H.R. 1911: Mr. MORELLE, Ms. NEWMAN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1916: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. KILMER, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. DELGADO, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LATURNER, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 1956: Mr. BACON, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 1978: Mr. MORELLE, Ms. CHU, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 1986: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1992: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 1993: Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 1994: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 1996: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. EMMER, Mr. MELJER, and Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 2002: Mr. WESTERMAN.
H.R. 2015: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 2050: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. COLE, and Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 2076: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 2080: Mr. WELCH and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 2084: Mr. BABIN and Mrs. BOEBERT.
H.R. 2108: Ms. PRESSLEY and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 2125: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. NEWMAN, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 2139: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 2144: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2184: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2188: Mr. STIVERS, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 2192: Mr. RYAN and Mr. CAWTHORN.
H.R. 2193: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 2201: Ms. NORTON and Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 2213: Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 2224: Mr. ALLEN and Mr. FALLON.
H.R. 2249: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 2294: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2300: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 2318: Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 2333: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 2337: Mr. DEFazio, Ms. MATSUI, and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 2347: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. SOTO, and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 2349: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. PERRY, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 2355: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida and Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 2373: Mr. MORELLE and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 2375: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 2377: Mr. DEFazio, Mr. RUSH, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. POCAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. ROSS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. SWALWELL.
H.R. 2394: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 2430: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. LONG, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. DUNN, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, and Ms. VAN DUYN.
H.R. 2457: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 2487: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 2488: Mr. FITZGERALD and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 2491: Mrs. STEEL, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. HILL, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KATKO, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. SMUCKER, and Ms. LETLOW.
H. J. Res. 12: Mr. ARRINGTON and Mr. GOLDEN.
H. J. Res. 19: Mr. BUCK and Mrs. MCCLAIN.
H. Res. 47: Mr. JEFFRIES.
H. Res. 109: Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. CARSON, Ms. ROSS, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. STEFANK, Ms. MANNING, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, and Mr. JEFFRIES.
H. Res. 118: Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. TRONE, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. JACOBS of New York, and Ms. MACE.
H. Res. 153: Mr. JACOBS of New York.
H. Res. 160: Mrs. MCCLAIN.
H. Res. 174: Mr. VELA.
H. Res. 237: Mr. HUFFMAN and Mr. COSTA.
H. Res. 245: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H. Res. 285: Mr. CASE and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H. Res. 299: Mr. GARBARINO and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H. Res. 302: Mr. COSTA.

DELETION OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H. Res. 157: Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

PT-7. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Puerto Rico Bar Association, relative to Resolution No. 8, calling for the ratification of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and other related initiatives; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

PT-8. Also, a petition of the Mayor and City Commission of Miami Beach, FL, relative to Resolution No. 2021-31550, strongly condemning the disgraceful, violent assault on the United States Capitol that took place on January 6, 2021, in an unlawful effort to undermine and derail the fulfillment of Congress' Constitutional duty to certify the results of the 2020 General Presidential Election; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PT-9. Also, a petition of Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, CA, relative to Resolution No. 31-21, urging the Board of Supervisors to support Caravan for the Children: Uncage, ReUnify,

and Heal/Caravana Por Los Ninos: Liberar ReUnificar y Sanar, in their efforts to demand the Biden-Harris administration use executive action to undue cruel and destructive policies, and for the United States Congress pass comprehensive immigration reform; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PT-10. Also, a petition of the City Commission of Miramar, FL, relative to Resolution No. 21-42, urging the United States Congress to enact the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 and providing for an effective date; Foreign Affairs.; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, and Foreign Affairs.